Havana.

Volume 94

Oct. 1, 1884.

March 31, 1885.

Dble

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 7 1884
RECEIVED

No. 45 U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, October 1st 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Acknowledging the receipt
of the Department's instruc-
-ions Nos 7 and 8 of September
24th ultimo.

No. 45 — U.S. Consulate General

Havana, October 1st 1884.

Honorable William Hunter.

Acting Secretary of State.

Washington.

D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instructions, numbers 7 and 8, of 24th of September, ultimo, which have my most careful attention.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Ack. & approves the W's letter & the leg. Genl. Advs. & Oct. 13/84

Copy sent Sec. Foster (Treasury & previous instructions) for information.

1504.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE OCT 7 1884 RECEIVED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE OCT 7 1884 RECEIVED

Defunct crone in this case.

Dft Clair

No. 46.—

U. S. Consulate General.

Havana, October 1st 1884.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Claim of the Cuban Treasury against British steamers, chartered by Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co., of Boston, Mass: for alleged deficiencies in the collection of tonnage dues, by the Custom House of Cienfuegos, amounting to $12,929.13

One inclosure.—

No. 46. — U.S. Consulate General
Havana, October 1st 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch, No. 43, formerly No. 23, dated the 26th September, ultimo, relating to the proposed collection of ~~_____~~ $12,929.13 by the Customs authorities of Cienfuegos, as additional tonnage dues imposed on several British steamers chartered and sailed some time back, between Boston Mass:

Mass:, and Cienfuegos, Cuba,
by Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co
of the former place, I have
now the honor to state, that
without altering my opinion,
then expressed, that the retro-
-active responsibility in this
case, if any, should attach
to the steamers, and not to
the charterers; nevertheless,
in view of the persistency
of the Cienfuegos Customs
authorities to fix their &
attention on the property, in
this Island, of Messrs Elisha
Atkins & Co, of Boston, and
apprehensive that some
arbitrary action, on their
part, might be attempted, &

I

I deemed it to be necessary for this office to bring the subject before the attention of His Excellency, the Governor General.

In consequence, and under yesterday's date, I addressed a communication upon the subject to His Excellency, which I delivered in person today, copy of which is herewith enclosed for the information of the Department.

During the conference with H. E., I received the assurance that the exaction of these alleged deficiencies, for the present, would

would be suspended, and I left him with the impression that the case would be finally settled in a satisfactory manner.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure.

1. — Mr Williams, to the Governor General of Cuba, September 29th 1884.

Inclosure Nº1.
With Dispatch Nº46-
Havana, October 1st 1884.
Copy.

Consulate General of the United States of America, at Havana,
September 29th 1884.

To His Excellency,
The Governor General
of this Island-

&c &c &c

Excellency:

I have the honor to place before, and most respectfully to ask Your Excellency's particular attention to the following most unusual and complex case to which, there are three parties; the first American citizens, as charterers: the second a series of British steamships: the

third a Spanish subject, as agent of the said American charterers.

Eliminating, as a matter of course, the two latter, as topics of this communication, — the one as pertaining exclusively to Her Britannic Majesty's worthy representative in this Capital, and the other as coming under Your Excellency's effective protection, I shall adhere solely to the defence of the American side of the case.

With this view, I now have the honor to present herewith the certified copy of a protest made on the 20th of last February, before the Consul of the United States at Cienfuegos, Mr William P. Pierce, by Mr Edwin T. Atkins, a member of the highly respectable

<u>American</u>

American firm of Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co., of Boston, State of Massachusetts, in which the latter protests against the demand made upon his firm, through its Spanish agent in Cienfuegos, by the Collector of Customs of that port, or any other Custom House Official or Officials, for now exacting or hereafter collecting the amount of $12,929.13 additional, to that which has been already assessed and collected, as tonnage dues by the said Customs authorities on certain British steamships chartered and navigated by the said firm, between the port of Boston, in the United States, and that of Cienfuegos, in Cuba.

This, Your Excellency, is a most unheard of case,

and such as has never before come before this Consulate, or brought by it before the Govern=ment of the Island.

An inversion of its terms will assist us in the analysis, and in the placing of its relations better before our view.

Let it be supposed that the steamers in question were carrying the American flag, and were chartered and navigated by Spanish merchants, between the ports of Liverpool, England, and Havana, Cuba, and consigned at the former port to an English agent.

That the latter upon receiving notice from the Customs authorities there of the amount of tonnage indebted by the said steamers,

pays.

says it: he then asks the usual clearing permit for the steamers to return to Arana or to go to any other port and that the same is granted by the Collector of Liverpool

Now, according to universal practice, and one evolved from centuries upon centuries of international commercial intercourse, the English Agent in due course would render his accounts to his principals the Spanish merchants, and the latter, in turn, would liquidate their charters with the American steamships — and here the transaction, would cease, and be settled forever after.

Then suppose a year or two afterwards, from any cause

whatever, the accounts of the Liverpool Customs officers referring to these ships be pronounced erroneous by some other Custom House officer of the British Govern= =ment, and a reclamation is made, in consequence.

The question would then naturally arise of upon whom the collection should be enforced. _____ Would it be upon the English agent, who had already settled his accounts in the premises, both with the Liverpool Custom House, and his Spanish principals in Havana. — ? Can it be enforced upon the Spanish principals who have also liquidated both with their English Agent, and the chartered American steamships?

Can

Can it be enforced upon the American steamships that have already satisfied the Liverpool customs dues and closed their accounts with their Spanish charterers, and are now perhaps under charters to a merchant of some other nationality or perchance may have changed ownership, and in consequence may be flying the flag of some other nation — ?. Clearly no. — Because to admit this principle would be equivalent to the upsetting the whole basis of international commerce, and to introduce in the World's trade a principle of disorder, that would surely end in its destruction.

But, Excellency, this case has already been adjudged on general principles, in favor-

of

of Messrs E Atkins & Co, because embraced, by reason of its similarity, in that of Messrs James E. Ward & Co, of New York, which according to the communication of His Excellency the Secretary of the Treasury, addressed on the 22nd of last month to the Collector of Revenues of the Province of Santa Clara, was decided in their favor, and in which he at the same time informs the latter that the responsibility of the matter had been declared as exclusively attached to the Government officers.

It is true that the Secretary has since revoked his own decree, emitting a contrary judgment; but this instead of making the case more clear only adds to its complication

complication.

But, in the meantime, the property of Messrs E. Atkins & Co., is threatened with seizure by the arbitrary action of the authorities.

Therefore, relying on the enlightened judgment, the good will, and spirit of justice that ever characterize Your Excellency's acts, and in view of all the foregoing, as also in virtue of my general instructions, I now have to ask Your Excellency, first, — to be pleased to issue your instructions to the end that all proceedings of attachment against the property of Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co. of Boston, for any cause, herein mentioned, be immediately suspended, and—

second that the case be quashed by the exercise of Your Excellency's right of veto.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Y.E.'s Obedient Servant.
(signed) Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Bond approved & sent to Treasury. Rem. to Dep. B. S. & Springer returned re-sent to Springer with transcript of bond Oct. 11'84

No 47.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT. 7 1884
RECEIVED.

St Clair

U. S. Consulate General

Havana Oct 2d 1884.

Mr Williams to the

Department of State.

Subject:

Forwarding bond of Mr James H. Springer.

One enclosure.

No 47.

U. S. Consulate General
Havana. October 2d 1884.

Hon: John Davis
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith the duly executed bond for Mr James H. Springer's appointment as Vice Commercial Agent at San Juan de los Remedios; and would state that the delay in its transmission arose from Mr Springer sending it for execution to sureties in the

United States, who happened to be absent, and consequently the bond was returned to him.

The sureties are respectable persons, personally known to me and I consider them sufficient.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant,

Ramm O. Williams

Quartermaster General.

one enclosure - bond.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 11 1884
RECEIVED.

Dr Hilair

Separate U S Consulate General
Havana Oct 8. 1884

Wants to be brought to transit recognition
regard to Dec. 20 85.

Mr Ford

To Hon John Davis

Abstract of Contents

Enclosing letters from First Comptroller
in which transit account is disallowed

Separate. U. S. Consulate General
Havana, Oct. 8th 1889.

Hon John Davis.
Asst Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of two letters received from the Irish Comptroller U.S. Treasury, in which he disallows my transit account from Sagua la Grande to Havana $32.97
and my account while awaiting Exequatur in Havana $49.45.
These two items were included in my accounts as directed by the Department despatch No 182 dated June 25th 1889.

The Irish Comptroller also charges me with Sanitary Inspection fees amounting to $757.85
at the same time calling upon me to present my accounts or vouchers for expenses paid on account of said Inspection. The fees or accounts for this service (Sanitary) I have not presented

forwarded or proceeded to the Treasury in accordance with instructions from the Department of State, as the service was an unofficial one and consequently was not to be transmitted to the Treasury with my other accounts, at the same time I beg to inform the Department I have deposited the accounts and vouchers for this service in the Consular Bureau where they can be called for at any time the Department thinks proper to use them, the vouchers show that I have paid out for necessary expenses to carry on this service the sum of $575.32/100

As I have forwarded implicitly the instructions of the Department I respectfully request that it will protect me against any adverse action of the Treasury Department,

I am Sir

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Clarence E. Ford
Late Acting Consul General

Enclosures
No 1 Letter from Acting First Comptroller, Oct 1
" 2 " " " " " "

Copy

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

First Comptroller's Office.

Washington D. C., October 3rd 1884.

C. C. Ford, Esq.,
U. S. Vice Consul General at Havana
Care Department of State.

Sir:-

Your account of salary and fees from April 18, 1884, to June 30, 1884, has been adjusted per Report No. 103288, and there has been found due from you to the United States a balance of $3003.65

Amounts allowed per separate adjustments.

Clerk Hire, per Report No. 103289	$406.59	
Relief of Seamen " No. 102893	$ 2.00	$ 408.59
Actual balance due from you		$2595.06
Balance per your account		0.00
	Difference.	$2595.06

Thus accounted for.

1. Contingent Expenses from April 18, 1884 to June 30 1884 not yet adjusted awaiting the necessary appropriation for deficiencies by Congress. $ 666.29

2. Fee for noting protest as shown by ships bill schooner "R. F. Hart", April 22, 1884, not credited in your transcript of fees. $ 2.00

3. Amount charged for transit, disallowed. $ 32.97

4. " " for exquatur " $ 49.45

5. Fees for certificates to sanitary inspection of vessels from April 18, 1884 to June 30, 1884, as shown by your ships bills, but not credited in your Record of fees $ 487.35

6. Remittance to the Assistant Treasurer of U. S. at New York, not yet to your credit. $1357.00

Difference explained $2595.06

Item 1. ($666 29-100) appears to be nominal only, and will be allowed when the necessary deficiency appropriation shall have been made by Congress.

Item 2. ($2. 00-100) you will please credit to the United States in your next account of salary and fees.

Items 3 and 4 ($32 97-100 and $49 45-100) amounting in the aggregate to $82 42-100, has been disallowed.

The Rule prescribed in the Consular Regulations Paragraph 59, Page 24 relating to compensation, is as follows, "no allowance has been provided by law for the compensation of a Vice Consul Gen-

eral, Vice Consul, or Vice Commercial Agent, or of any subordinate officers (except Consular Clerks and Marshals) while receiving instructions, or during transit to or from his post, or for traveling expenses) Therefore under this provision your charge for transit salary and exequatur is necessarily disallowed.
You will please credit this sum of $82 42-100 to the United States in your next account of salary and fees; or deposit same in the Treasury.
Item 5. ($487 35-100) fees for certificates to sanitary inspection of vessels have been charged to you in accordance with the rule that has so far been applied in the settlement of the accounts of all Consular officers. It is possible that this question may be reviewed and definitely decided by the Comptroller at an early date. If you have any accounts or vouchers for expenses paid from said fees on account of sanitary inspection, you will please transit the same at once to this office.
Item 6. ($1357 00-100) appears to be nominal only, and will be removed in due course of business.

I am,
Very respectfully,
Signed J. Tarbell,
Acting Comptroller.

Copy 102

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

First Comptroller's Office.

Washington, D. C., October 3rd 1884.

C. C. Ford, Esq.,
U. S. Vice Consul General at Havana,
Care Department of State.

Sir:-

Your account of salary and fees from July 1, 1884 to August 11, 1884, has been adjusted per Report No. 103291, and there has been found due from you to the United States a balance of $3071.32

Amounts allowed per separate adjustment			
Relief of Seaman, Report No.	103,154	$ 21.70	
Contingent Expenses " "	103,292	$248.22	
Clerk Hire " "	103,293	$215.51	$ 485.43
Actual balance due from you			$2585.89
Balance admitted per your account			$ 22.02
		Difference.	$2563.87

Thus accounted for.

Items of difference per Report No. 103288 in your account to June 30, 1884, as fully explained in my letter of even date herewith, (items 2, 3, 4 and 5) and brought forward in this adjustment, viz:

2. Fee for noting protest.	$ 2.00
3. Charge for Transit salary disallowed.	$ 32.97
4. " " Exequatur	$ 49.45
5. Sanitary Inspection to June 30, 1884.	$ 487.35
Total items of difference to June 30, 1884.	$ 571.77
1. Fees for certificates to Sanitary Inspection of vessels from July 1, 1884 to August 11, 1884 as shown by your ship bills, but not credited in your Record of fees.	$ 270.50

2. Remittances to the assistant Treasurer of U. S. at New York, not yet to your credit, viz. on account of official fees Estate James Smith $1221.60
On account Consulars fees July 1, to Aug. 11, 1884! $ 500.00 $1721.60

Difference explained. $2563.87

The items of difference amounting to $571 77-100 as above, which were stated in your account to June 30, 1884 were fully explained in letter of even date herewith.

Item 1. (270 50-100) fees for certificates to Sanitary Inspection of vessels from July 1, 1884 to August 11, 1884 has also been charged to you in this adjustment, for reasons explained in my same letter.

Item 2 ($1721 60-100) appears to be nominal only and will be removed in due course of business.

I am,

Very respectfully

J. Tarbell,

Acting Comp.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 14 1884
RECEIVED.

Asia

No 48. U.S. Consulate General
Havana October 8 1884.

Mr Williams to the
Department of State.

Returns and accounts.

Transmitting returns, and accounts for clerk hire and miscellaneous expenses for the part quarter ending Sept 30 1884.

Six enclosures.

No 48. U. S. Consulate General

Havana October 8 1884.

Hon: John Davis

Assistant Secretary of State

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following returns and accounts of this Consulate General for the period embraced between August 12th and September 30th 1884. both dates inclusive; viz

Stat

No 1. Digest of Invoice book for the above period; 1/

Inclo 2/ No 2: Record of Notarial fees received;

Inclo 3/ No 3: Summary of consular business;

4/ No 4: Account for salary paid to Consular Clerk Mr Joseph A. Springer;

Agt 5/ No 5: Account for Extra clerk hire; and

6/ No 6: Account for Rent and Miscellaneous Expenses, during the same period.

The amounts of the said accounts for:

salary Consular Clerk, $ 163.04
extra clerk hire, and " 217.82
miscellaneous expenses " 471.37

have been debited to the United States, in my account current

For

for Salary and Fees, which shows a balance in my favor due me by the United States, of Six hundred and six $\frac{34}{100}$ dollars, and which I place to my credit in my next account current.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General

six enclosures.

[Form No. 103.]

SUMMARY of business at the United States Consulate at General Havana during the last quarter ended Sept 30th, 1884.

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS.

Vessels in port from last quarter,	1 Stm.	2 Barks		3 -
Vessels arriving during present quarter,	30 "	4 "	2 Brgs 21 Schs.	= 57 -
Vessels departing,	30 "	4 "	2 " 18 "	54 -
Vessels remaining in port,	1 "	2 "	3 "	6 -

Tonnage arriving, 37.320 -

Tonnage departing, 35.807 -

Fees received, $ # 1.792.32

Expenses, including salary, $

MOVEMENT OF SEAMEN.

Seamen in port from last quarter,	80	
Seamen arriving,	1540 -	
Seamen shipped,	1 -	
Seamen died,		
Seamen discharged,		1
Seamen deserted,		2
Seamen departed,		1517
Seamen in port,		101
	1621	1621

SYNOPSIS OF SEAMEN'S ACCOUNT.

	Dr.	Cr.
Balance from previous quarter	$	$
Received for extra wages # 25 - arrears 7.50		# 32.50
Expended for seamen	# 239.64	
Balance in my favor, closed into A/c		" 207.14
	# 239 64	239 64

Consulate of the United States at Havana

September 30, 1884.

Ramon O. Williams

U. S. Consul.

STEREO-S.

Auth Dispatch No 48
Oct 6 1884

Hawaii

Raum & Williams
Consul General

Sept 30 1884

Summary of
business from
Aug 12th Sept 30
1884.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE GENERAL AT HAVANA

Notarial

Fees received during the Quarter ending September 30, 1884.

DATE.	No.	NAME OF [illegible]	NAME OF THE PARTY PAYING THE FEE.	NATURE OF SERVICE RENDERED.	AMOUNT OF FEES PAID.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
1884.		×	×				
Aug	13	Fr. Sweip.	Auth	Power Atty	$ 2 -	2	
"	18	R Hernandez	"	dec & Patent	50	50	
"	20	C. Dominguez	"	Sig. & not: Doc	2 -	2 -	
"	26	L delMonte	"	" of Jellicoe	2 -	2 -	
"	28	M Marquez	"	affd & Life Ins: ons	50	50	
		J Overhoff	"	Notarial document	2 -	2 -	
			From Aug 12 to 31st			$ 9	
Sept	3	Alejandro Camilo	Auth	Not: Document	2 -	2 -	
"	5	Geo de Ford	"	affidavit	50	50	
"	11	J Durand	"	power of attorney	2 -	2	
"	12	A Morales	"	not: document	2 -	2 -	
"	13	Josefa Manner	"	affidavit	50	50	
"	17	G de Ford	"	" & acct ct	50		
	"	J de la Guente	"	" " Habana dtos	50	1 -	
"	18	M L Coppinger	"	Power attorney	2 -		
		Carlos Echeverria	"	" "	2 -		
		Todd & Co	"	signature	2 =	6 -	
"	19	R de Llanias	"	2 power of att'ney	4 -	4 -	
"	20	A Rodewald	"	Sig: of Rent Bag	2 -	2 -	
"	24	F. del Valle	"	2 Not: Document	4 -		
	"	M de Dama	"	" "	2 -	6 -	
"	25	S. Coppinger	"	" "	2 -	2 -	
"	30	F Elias	"	2 Powers attorney	4 -	-	
		Mary Gonzalves	"	Sig: to deed	2 -	6 -	
			Total from Aug 12 to Sept 30			$ 43 -	

I certify that the foregoing record of notarial services, is a full and correct transcript of the record of this Consulate General, and that the same contains a true and accurate statement of all the fees received at this Consulate General for such services, during the period named.

U.S. Consulate General
Havana Sept 30 1884
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Jos A. Springer
Consular Clerk

UNITED STATES CONSULATE GENERAL AT HAVANA.

Fees received during the Quarter ending , 188 .

DATE.	No.	NAME OF VESSEL.	NAME OF THE PARTY PAYING THE FEE.	NATURE OF SERVICE RENDERED.	AMOUNT OF FEES PAID.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.

Certificate No 2
Act Dec 22 1874
Ex Rec'd 1885

Fees

Sept 30 Penn O. Williams
Consul Genl

Sept 30 Fees received from
Dept of State
1885

Oct 12 Fees received from
Dept of State.

Interesting

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 14 1884
RECEIVED

No 49.

Dft Clair

U.S. Consulate General

Havana, October 8th 1884

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Complaints of the Spanish

Army for want of pay.

One inclosure.

Enclosure No 2

with Despatch No 49

Confidential.

No 49 — U.S. Consulate General

Havana, October 8th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I beg to inclose, herewith, translation of two articles cs 1/ taken from the two accompanying numbers of the "El Eco Militar", published in this City, and organ of the Spanish Army in this Island, which explain themselves.

I am, Sir,

Very

very respectfully.

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure.

1 – As before stated.

Inclosure No. 1
With Dispatch No 49
Havana, October 8th 1884

From the "El Eco Militar" of Havana, of 3 and 4th of October 1884.

Translation:

October 3/84.

The Remedy Urges.

The situation of the army, owing to the suspension of the payment of its monthly wages, is extremely afflictive, and of such transcendency, that a prompt and definitive remedy is required.

The troops for six months, and in some divisions more, do not receive their pluses (sobras).

Since

Since May, the officers are at the mercy of the usurers, that they may have something with which to support their families. For this, they have had to give their promissory notes; because their receipts for their pay are not accepted by the money lenders; for the reason that the latter do not wish to become creditors of the Government; and these loans, received by officers, in addition to the exhorbitant rates of interest, to which they have to submit, will later on be the cause of some penality, or of some legal investigation in justification of their conduct, and their necessity for contracting these debts.

Neither the civil guard, nor that of public order, receive their pay, and these

these men are indebted for what they take even while on the march in the performance of their fatiguing duties.

The soldier has to nothing for his natural needs, nor for the cleanliness and dressing of his person: he owes for everything: to infinite are the remonstrances made to the chiefs, and their responsibilty is constantly on the increase.

We are not on a to campaign, yet neither the soldier nor the officer have rations for their subsistence. — The eleven and more payments, in arrears during the war, did not belong to any one single year, as now happens with the six pending payments

The

The Quarter Master General's Department, (Administracion Militar), has not under its charge here, as in the Peninsula, the taking of bread: the corps acquire for their own account, every-thing needed for the soldier, and the contracts for clothing, equipment, and stores are without bidders; because the merchants do not wish to suffer from a repudiation of their bills or from their conversion into the public debt, (en un corte de cuentas ó conversion en deuda.) whose certificates and interests are never received. The merchants of small capital, such as the shop-keepers, who furnish stores in the country, refuse further supplies; because, as they say with reason: it is more difficult to collect a

hundred

hundred dollars, for the supply of a detachment, than a million dollars for the supply of a whole division of the army.

In several places of the *Villas, the contractors refused the furnishing of further supplies, and only to the zeal and the promises of the Commanding Generals, united to their influence as Civil Governors - in some places, and as chiefs, in others, of bodies and detachments of troops, and availing themselves of their private friendships or prestige and of the credit of the Divisions, were they able to persuade the contractors to the contrary; thus the natural consequences of such a resolution were avoided. But

as

*(Villas) — That is the area comprehending, Laguna la Grande, Santa Espiritu, Cienfuegos, Villa Clara Trinidad and Remedios

as we continue without being able to pay, and the debt increasing, the contractors again refuse to furnish the army, and within another six days, neither promises nor good wishes will suffice, and the troops will be without rations, and without the means to support themselves.

And the conduct of the authorities not having responded properly to these concessions, and, in consequence, the chiefs of the army now being without influence; then, should a case of necessity arise, they will find themselves without the required moral power to maintain the prestige, discipline and obedience of the army

The complaints produced

by the grave crisis through which the country is now passing, are general; but no one fixes attention on the afflictive and precarious situation of all classes of the army. The opposition notices the fact of its condition, as one of the charges it makes against the authorities; but not to come to its support, — thus showing the indifference with which it is looked upon, though, let its position be what it may, full duty is exacted of the army.

The general situation of the Island, requires a prompt execution of the laws of authorizations, (lately passed by the Cortes,) to the end that the Treasury of Cuba may cover the budget;

but the condition of the army requires an immediate remedy.

The negotiations between the Government and the creditors of the Treasury, which must have already commenced, — even allowing for the good disposition of the creditors, must consume some time for their conclusion and settlement. But, in order that the army may receive one month's pay, with which to support itself during these negotiat=ions, there remains no other remedy, but to postpone the delivery to the Colonial Bank of instalments — sufficient, at least, to cover one months pay, of the six due the army.

According

According to accounts, our worthy first authority, who is equally as well acquainted with the afflictive situation of the army as he is with that of the whole Island, is now actively engaged in the effort to persuade the Home Government to order the Treasury of the Peninsula to guarantee the payment of the debt to the Colonial Banks, in order, that the revenues collected in the Island, may go to the defraying of its expenses.

We who know, the interest and desire of General Castillo, cannot but express the wish, that as a provisional measure, and in await, for the result of his labors, that one month's pay be given the army, that it may have a brief

respite; because even granting the preference of certain obligations of the Treasury, the condition of the army is not on that account any the less afflictive. The Law imposes duties on the army; in the execution of which should it fail, not only is its own life exposed, but the country is dishonored.

October 14th 1864

We insist. — The accounts that reach us of the lamentable state of the troops throughout the Island, due to the great time they are without pay, are truly discouraging.

The soldier is without tobacco, without the means of attending to the washing of his clothes, and is in want of everything.

There

There are some of the divisions of the army to which their pluses (sobras) have not been given for five months.

We well understand the crippled condition of the public Treasury, but when it rains: why shall we all not get wet? (sic) If there are preferent obligations: what one can be greater than that of attending to the maintenance of public (social) order?

The chiefs, officers, and soldiers of the army, have given, and are giving ample proofs of their pure patriotism, and those same people who consider themselves privileged creditors of the Treasury, would do well to remember that the army

is

is the basis upon which the payment of their credits, depends, (sic)

We await with impatience the decision of the Ministry, in reply to the continued efforts made, as we understand, by the Captain General to obtain the adoption of some measures that will permit the Treasury to attend to the most urgent wants of the army. Circumstances are becoming more aggravating from moment to moment, and the situation is becoming unbearable.

El Eco Militar.

October 3, 1884.

URGE EL REMEDIO.

La situación del ejército, á causa de la suspensión del pago de sus consignaciones mensuales, es sumamente aflictiva y de tal trascendencia que necesita pronta y definitiva resolución.

La tropa hace seis meses, y en algunos cuerpos más, que no recibe sus sobras.

Los oficiales desde Mayo están á merced de los usureros y prestamistas, para tener algo con que atender á sus familias, teniendo que empeñar pagarés porque no aceptan los recibos de pagas para no ser acreedores del Estado y estos préstamos que reciben los oficiales, además del exorbitante interés á que tienen que someterse, serán más tarde, causa de algún castigo ó expediente, para justificar su conducta y necesidad de la deuda.

La guardia civil y orden público no reciben tampoco sus consignaciones, y sus parejas, adeudan hasta lo que toman durante su penoso servicio. El soldado no tiene para sus gastos naturales ni del aseo de su persona, lo debe todo; son infinitas las reclamaciones y la responsabilidad de los jefes aumenta constantemente.

No estamos en campaña y ni el soldado ni el oficial tienen ración con que atender á su subsistencia. Las once y más pagas de atraso en tiempo de la guerra no fueron de un mismo año como sucede con las seis de ahora. La administración militar no tiene á su cargo como en la península la elavoración del pan, los cuerpos adquieren por su cuenta todo lo necesario para el soldado y las contratas para vestuario, equipo y rancho no tienen licitadores porque el comercio no quiere verse envuelto en un corte de cuentas ó conversión en deuda, cuyas láminas é intereses no recibe nnnca; y los comerciantes de poco capital que son los que suministran el rancho fuera de las ciudades se niegan á seguir suministrándolo, porque dicen y con razón que es más difícil cobrar cien pesos que un millón, el importe del suministro de un cuerpo que el de todo el ejército.

En varios puntos de las Villas y Santiago de Cuba se negaron los contratistas al suministro y el celo y promesas de los Comandantes generales, unido al influjo como Gobernadores civiles en unos puntos, y en otros los jefes de los cuerpos ó destacamentos, valiéndose de sus amistades ó prestigio y del crédito del cuerpo, consiguieron no lo llevaran á efecto, evitándose las consecuencias naturales de semejante resolución. Pero como seguimos sin poder pagar y la deuda aumenta, vuelven á negarse y dentro de seis días no valdrán las promesas ni los buenos deseos, y la tropa no tendrá rancho, ni dinero para pagar su manutención.

La autoridad no quedó con aquellas concesiones en muy buen lugar y los jefes de cuerpos y fuerzas, sin acción, y en caso necesario carecerán de la justa fuerza moral para sostener unos y otros el prestigio, la disciplina y la obediencia.

Las quejas producidas por la grave crísis que atraviesa el país es general, pero nadie se fija en la angustiosa y precaria situación de todas las clases del ejército, que sólo la oposición enumera como unos de tantos cargos á las autoridades, pero no en su apoyo, consecuencia de la indiferencia con que se mira al ejército, á quien cualquiera que sea su situación, se le exige el cumplimiento de su deber.

La situación general de la isla, reclama hoy pronta ejecución de la Ley de autorizaciones, para que el Tesoro de Cuba pueda cubrir el presupuesto; pero la del ejército, exije más inmediato remedio. Las negociaciones entre el Gobierno y los acreedores del Tesoro que deben haber comenzado ya, por buenas que sean las disposiciones de los acreedores, ha de pasar algún tiempo hasta su acuerdo y planteamiento y para que el ejército reciba una sola mensualidad, con la que pueda esperar el término de las negociaciones, no hay otro recurso que aplazar la entrega al Banco Colonial de su consignación ó la parte necesaria para una mensualidad de las seis que se adeudan al ejército.

Según noticias, nuestra digna primera autoridad que conoce la situación angustiosa del ejército, como conoce y comprende la general de la Isla, está gestionando activamente con el Gobierno para que el Tesoro de la Península garantice el pago al Banco Colonial y todos los ingresos de la Isla se dediquen al de las atenciones de la misma.

Nosotros que no podemos menos de conocer el interés y deseo del general Castillo, esperamos que, como medida provisional y en espera del resultado de sus gestiones, se facilite al ejército una mensualidad para que tenga un pequeño respiro, porque, indudablemente, por preferentes que sean las obligaciones contraidas por el Tesoro, no lo es menos la aflictiva situación del ejército á quien la Ley impone deberes que si falta á ellos pone en peligro su vida y deshonra la patria.

El Eco Militar,
October 4. 1884.

Insistimos. Desconsoladoras son las noticias que llegan á nosotros del lamentable estado en que está la tropa de toda la Isla, por el mucho tiempo que hace no percibe haberes algunos. El soldado carece de tabaco, de medios para atender al lavado de su ropa, carece de todo. Cuerpo hay en que no se dan sobras hace cinco meses.

Desde luego comprendemos el estado angustioso del Tesoro público; pero cuando llueve ¿por qué no nos mojamos todos? Si hay atenciones preferentes ¿cuál será más que la de atender al sostenimiento del orden social? Los jefes, oficiales y soldados del ejército de la isla de Cuba, han dado y están dando bastantes pruebas de acendrado patriotismo, y esos mismos señores á quienes se les considera como deudores privilegiados del Tesoro, deben tener en cuenta, que el ejército es el sostén del cumplimiento de esas deudas, y por lo tanto, son los primeros interesados en procurar que se atienda siquiera al pago de lo que estrictamente necesita.

Esperamos con impaciencia la resolución del Ministerio, referente á las reiteradas excitaciones que según tenemos entendido, le ha hecho nuestro celoso Capitán General, para que adopte alguna medida que permita al Tesoro atender siquiera á las más apremiantes necesidades del ejército. Las circunstancias se agravan por momentos, y la situación se va haciendo ya insostenible.

approve

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 14 1884
RECEIVED.

Dft Clair

No. 50- U. S. Consulate General

Havana, Oct. 9th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State

Claim by the Cuban Treas-
-ury, against British
steamers, chartered by
messrs Elisha Atkins & Co,
of Boston, Mass: for alleged
deficiencies in the collection
of tonnage dues by the
Custom House of Cienfuegos
in this Island.

One inclosure.

No 50 U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Oct^r 9^th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatches, No 431 formerly 433 of 26^th September ultimo, and 446 of October 1^st instant, regarding the claim made by the Cuban Treasury against British vessels, chartered by Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co, of Boston, and trading between the latter port and that of Cienfuegos

in

in this Island, I have now the
honor to inclose copy of a letter
1.- I addressed to Mr Pierce, dated
29th Sept.r ultimo, instructing
him, that, should the authorities
attempt to carry out their verbal
threats, against the property
of Mess: Atkins & Co, or of any other
American citizen, he should
protest against such action,
informing me of same by
telegraph.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramm O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure-

1- Mr Williams to Mr Pierce, Sept.r 29th/84.

Inclosure N° 1 -
With Dispatch N° 50 -
Havana, October 9th 1884 -
Copy: _____

U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, September 29th 1884.

Wm P. Pierce Esqre
U.S. Consul -
Cienfuegos -

Dear Sir:

I have to acknowl=
=edge the receipt of your
note of the 27th instant, &
transmitting Mr Atkin's
letter dated Boston Sept 12
19th.

I have to refer you to
my letter of the 26th instant,
and add thereto, that not=
=withstanding the fact that
I had agreed with the &
British Consul General,

that

that he should have the exclusive and general defence of the case, yet I have determined to make a special defence of Messrs Atkins & Co's interests, both as charterers and as American citizens. I am engaged in the preparation of a communication to the Governor General upon the subject, and expect to present it tomorrow or day after, at the farthest.

Should the Customs authorities, in the meantime, molest Mr Mazaredo or attempt to attach any property belonging to Messrs Atkins & Co for the alleged fines or impositions due you are instructed to protest immediately, in the name of the United States Government, and to advise

me

me at once of your action by telegraph.

Should the interests of Messrs James E. Ward & Co. or those of any other American citizen be molested, you are instructed to take the same steps as indicated above.

I remain,

very truly yours,

(signed) Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Ack by mail file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 22 1884
RECEIVED.

Isli

No 51 U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, Oct 15th 1884

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Case of Charles A. Poujaud, referred for decision, by the Court of Matanzas, to the 'Audiencia' or Supreme Court of the Island of Cuba, at Havana.

No 51 — U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Oct^r 15^th 1884.

Hon: John Davis -
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington -

Sir:

Referring to the Department's instruction no 7, dated the 24^th ultimo, in relation to the case of Mr Charles A. Poyaud, (Jr:) of Matanzas, the receipt of which I acknowledged the 1^st instant in my No 45, - I have now the honor to report the substance of a conference I had on the 11^th instant

with Mr José María Galvez, of this city, the advocate selected by Mr Poyaud, to defend him in his appeal to the Audiencia of this city

Mr Galvez, then, informed me that the case, (autos) had only been received at the Audiencia two or three days before from the Court at Matanzas, and was in the hands of the "Relator", for his "apuntamiento" or judicial abstract. It then goes to the "Fiscal" or prosecutor, who in turn will deliver it to Mr Galvez,

to

to make his written defense;
and finally there will
be a public hearing for
the oral defense. All
this, Mr Galvez, — says;
even with urging the case,
will necessarily take up
two or three months time.

To this I would
respectfully add, that —
from a friendly intercourse
of 20 years with Mr Galvez,
I consider that Mr Poyaud,
has for his defense in this
case, one of the most able
advocates of the bar of
Havana.

I am, Sir,

Very

respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon A. Williams

Consul General

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 22 1884
RECEIVED.

Instr'd to send
order of Sept. 7'78
& May 29'85

6

No. 52. U.S. Consulate General.
Habana, October 15th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Claim of Mr Manuel José de Rojas, a naturalized citizen of the United States, against the Municipal Government of Habana, for illegal attachment and execution against rents of part property owned by him in this city.

Transmitting copy of a communication from this office, dated Oct 13th 1884, to the Governor General, in reference to the above.

One inclosure.

See No 5 of 3 May 83
Protection case
of Rojas

No. 52. — U.S. Consulate General
Havana, October 15th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose for the information of the Department copy of a communication that I addressed on the 13th inst. and presented in person to His Excellency the Governor General of this Island, in relation to an attachment laid and executed by the Municipal Government of Havana, against the rents of that part of the house No. 88, San Ygnacio street in this city, belonging to Mr. Manuel José de Rojas, a naturalized American citizen, for alleged

arreas of taxes incurred during a period that the said house was held under sequestration by the General Government of the Island, and during which period its rents were collected and appropriated to itself by the said General Government.

As soon as my attention was called to this affair, some six weeks ago by Mr Luis Bausá, the agent in this city of Mr Rojas, I called upon H. E. the Governor General with the object of presenting it to his attention, and of asking him for a remedial measure.

I explained to His Excellency, that by reason of the rents of this property, having been collected and held by the General Govern-ment, for the time referred

to

to, it had been by an order of September 7th 1878 - of General Martinez Campos, the then Governor General, exempted from the payment of these taxes.

At the request of A.E, and with the view of straightening the affair, I left with him this order of General Martinez Campos, together with another of subsequent date bearing upon and confirmatory of the same, issued by the former Director General of Finance, Don Carlos de Rojas.

His Excellency, expressed himself as not surprised at the occurrence, in view of the present disordered state of the City Government, and assured me that he would give the subject immediate attention.

At the request each

time of Mr Bausá, who kept himself informed of the intentions of the collector of taxes of the Municipal Govern= ment, I made two other visits to A.E upon the same subject.

On each visit the same excuses and the same assurances were given me. But contrary to my expectations the collect= =ion has not only been enforced, but an additional attach= =ment has been laid on the rents corresponding to the coming months of October, November, December and January.

In due course I shall inform the Department of the progress of proceedings in this matter, and awaiting meantime its instructions,

I beg to remain, Sir,

with great respect,

Your

Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

~~Consul General.~~

Inclosure -

1 - Mr Williams to the Governor General - October 13th 1884.

Inclosure N°1
With Dispatch N°52
Havana, October 15th 1884.
Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America
Havana, October 13th 1884.

To His Excellency,
The Governor General
of this Island.
&c &c &c

Excellency:

I have the honor to accompany herewith, copy of a letter addressed in Spanish, to this Consulate General on the 11th instant, by Mr Luis Bausá, agent for Mr Manuel Jose de Rojas, a citizen of the United States, in which he complains that the Municipal Government,

has attached and collected the rent on that part, belonging to him of the house Nº 88, calle de San Ygnacio of this city, for taxes alleged to be due it during the time the General Government of the Island held said house under sequestration, and during which it collected the rents.

Excellency; this act on the part of the City Government is not only contrary to justice, but entirely in opposition to the special order issued by His Excellency the Governor General Martinez Campos, on the 7th of September, 1878, which I left with Your Excellency, when on a visit to the Palace a few weeks ago,

in reference to this affair

Moreover, the City Government, has also attached the rents of Mr Rojas' part of this house for the remaining months of this year, viz October, November, December and also of January 1885. I am, therefore compelled to ask Your Excellency's protection in favor of Mr Rojas, and to beg that Y.E. be pleased to order the return of the part collected for September, and, furthermore, that the attachment of October, November, December, and January proximo, be raised.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect.
Y.E's Obedient Servant.
(signed) Ramon O. Williams.
Consul General.

Sub. Estates

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 22 1884
RECEIVED.

Ans. & inc. Oct. 31/84.
by Mr. Adee's draft

No. 53. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, October 15th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Fine of $2000. imposed upon the American schooner "Louise A. Orr" by the Customs authorities of Havana.

One inclosure.

No 53 U. S. Consulate General
Havana, October 15th 1884

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit, herewith, copy of a communication which I addressed on the 10th instant to His Excellency, the Governor General of this Island, in relation to a fine of $2000.- imposed on the American schooner "Louise A. Orr", of Philadelphia, for having delivered ten packages of cargo less than manifested by the Captain. 1.

The mistake in this case, arises apparently, from the manifest of the vessel calling in one lot

of cargo, for eight-een, instead of eight packages of iron fittings.

No damage or fraud, however, has been committed, as is very manifest from the fact that the effects do not pay duties, and besides, that they belong to the Spanish Government.

This petition was presented by me, in person, to the Governor General, from whom I received the assurance that it would receive due and prompt attention.

The Department, in this case, will be kept informed of proceedings, and meantime awaiting its instructions,

I am, Sir,

very respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure -

1- Mr Williams to the Governor General Oct 10th 184[illegible].

Inclosure Nº 1 -
With Dispatch Nº 53 -
Havana, October 15th - 1884.
Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America
Havana, October 10th 1884.

To His Excellency,
The Governor General
of this Island.
" " "

Excellency:

I have the honor to present herewith the memor=
=ial of Messrs Henry B. Hamel & Co of this City, in reference to a fine of $2000.- imposed upon the American schooner "Louise A. Orr" by the Custom House of this port.

The

The facts of this case are as follows:

Among the cargo of this vessel there was a shipment composed of boilers for steamships; boxes of fittings; others of tubes; of boiler-doors; smoke-stacks; five hundred and forty fire bars; various pieces of angle-iron; many lock-nuts; washers; corkser pipes, and bolts, - all belonging to the Spanish navy, consigned to H. E. the Commandant General of Marine, and discharged and delivered at the Royal Arsenal of this city; and therefore, is property belong=ing to the Spanish Govern=ment itself.

The mistake, for which the fine is imposed consists in the Captain having erroneously stated

in the manifest presented to the Custom, — eight-een — instead of — eight boxes of fittings, as will be seen by Y.E. on the comparison of the accompanying Bill of Lading of said shipment, and as will likewise be corroborated by the records of the Spanish Navy Department.

It is, therefore, evident that no fraud was intended or committed.

Consequently, and in view of the foregoing, with the reservation of all the rights that may further pertain to the matter, and in conformity to the general instructions I have received, and also counting upon Y.E's spirit of justice, I most respect-fully ask that Y.E. be

pleased to order the stoppage of the proceedings on the part of the Customs authorities, against Messrs Henry B. Hamel & Co, and be pleased, also, to order the complete condonation of said fine.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect
Y. E's Obedient Servant.
(Signed) Ramon O. Williams
Consul General

Confidential.

Ask by mail.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 22 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 54. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, Oct 15th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State

Pay of the Spanish Army

Navy and other armed

forces in Cuba.

One inclosure.

Confidential.

No. 54. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, Oct^r 15^th, 1884.

Hon: John Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State

Washington.

Sir:

I beg to inclose, herewith, 1/ the translation of an article from "El Eco Militar, of this city, of 12^th instant, and the organ of the Spanish Army in Cuba, -which explains itself.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure-
1- as above.

Inclosure nº 1
With Dispatch nº. 54.
Habana, October 15th 1884.
Translation.

From the "El Eco Militar"
of Habana, October 12th, 1884.

Well done for the merchants of Manzanillo! The "Verdad" published in that place, says,

"The conduct observed by the merchants of this city in the case which we now relate, and in others of similar nature, is worthy of all praise.

We have already spoken several times of the crisis through which the island is now passing, owing to the want of funds with which to pay with regularity the

army, the navy and the other armed forces, and we will not on this occasion paint anew the picture of our depression.

The want of resources has gone on increasing in such a manner that there was no remedy left but to proceed in any legal way, (sic) whatever, to obtain food for our soldiers, and as in these cases the usual method is to lay on embargo, there might have been no other recourse but this, if the well known patriotism of our merchants had not interened, offering to give their merchandise for ten or twelve days more, while the Government of the Island sends the supplies that are absolutely necessary.

Let the Colonial Bank (of Spain) and the Spanish Bank of Havana imitate

imitate the conduct of these merchants, who, notwithstanding the great amount the Government of the Island owes them, and regardless of the many sacrifices suffered by them to the present, have not been able to look with impassiveness on the needs of the soldier; but have spontaneously presented themselves to save the situation

The merchants of this Island have always been the faithful expression of pure patriotism.

"El Eco Militar,"

October 12, 1884

ECOS.

Bien por el comercio de Manzanillo. Dice *La Verdad* de aquella población:

«Digna de encomio es la conducta observada por los señores comerciantes de esta ciudad en el caso que vamos á referir, y en otros como el que hoy nos ocupa.

Ya hemos hablado varias ocasiones de la angustiosa situación porque atraviesa el país, por consecuencia de la falta de numerario para satisfacer á tiempo los haberes del ejército, de la marina y demás institutos armados; por lo tanto hoy hacemos caso omiso de pintar de nuevo nuestro malestar.

La falta de recursos se ha ido acentuando de un modo tal que no había más remedio que proceder de cualquier modo legal para conseguir la comida para nuestros soldados, y como en estos casos suele echarse mano del embargo, tal vez no hubiera habido más recurso que éste, si el acreditado patriotismo de nuestros comerciantes no se hubiese puesto de por medio, brindándose á dar sus mercancías y víveres por diez ó doce días más, mientras que el Gobierno de esta Isla manda los recursos que son de absoluta necesidad.

Que el Banco Hispano Colonial y el Banco Español de la Habana imiten la conducta de estos comerciantes, que apesar de lo mucho que el Gobierno de la Isla les debe, y sin embargo de tantos sacrificios como han hecho hasta aquí, no han podido ver impasibles las necesidades del soldado, y se han prestado expontáneamente á salvar la situación.»

Siempre nuestro comercio ha sido en Cuba, la fiel expresión del más acendrado patriotismo.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 22 1884
RECEIVED.

247

F. St Clair

No. 55. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, Oct. 15th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Illegal seizure of property belonging to Messrs Lord & Wight, citizens of the United States, and merchants of the City of Baltimore, Maryland, by the Customs authorities of Matanzas, Island of Cuba.

Two inclosures.

No. 55. — U.S. Consulate General
Havana, October 15th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to call the attention of the Department to an act committed by the Customs authorities of Matanzas, against the property of Messrs Lord & Hight, of Baltimore, Maryland, reported to this office by Mr Vickers, U.S. Consul, of Matanzas, and which I cannot but characterize as most strange, unprecedented, and illegal.

In connection with the case, yesterday I addressed a communication to His Excellency, the Governor General, which I delivered in person,

protesting against the action of the Customs authorities at Matanzas, and requesting the immediate release of the property. Again, to day, I have sent in another communication to His Excellency, in consequence of having received this morning, a copy of the "Boletin Oficial de Matanzas," from Mr Vickers, containing an official notice of the sale of the goods to take place on the 17th instant, at 12. noon.

2.

Copies of both communications are herewith enclosed, and will explain themselves. — Meantime, awaiting instructions from the Department,

I have the honor to be,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosures —
1/2. — as stated.

Inclosure No 1
With Dispatch No 55.
Habana, October 15th 1884.
Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America,
Habana, October 14th 1884.

To His Excellency,
The Governor General.
&c. &c. &c.

Excellency:

I am constrained to call your attention to, and invoke the intervention of your Superior authority, respecting an act committed by the Customs authorities of Matanzas against the property of American citizens, which is of such an unreasonable & nature, that, without doubt, no

precedent for its support can be found in the history of the commercial relations that have so long existed between the United States and this Island.

The facts of the case are as follows:

The Customs authorities of that port have seized, on the 9th instant, 645 Hogshead shooks the property of Messrs Lord & Hight, of Baltimore, State of Maryland, in the United States, and by them shipped to Matanzas in the American schooner "Falmouth" and consigned by them for sale and returns, to Messrs Zanetti & Co, commission merchants of that port; furthermore the said authorities have already

advertised said merchandise for sale at auction, to take place at the Custom House stores at 12 O'clock of the day of the 17th instant.

The alleged cause for this seizure is a debt said to be due by the American Brig "Carrie Bertha", which arrived at Matanzas from Portland, Maine, a port 200 leagues distant from Baltimore, in November 1882. and consigned to the said firm of Messrs Zanetti & Co of Matanzas.

But there is no relation whatever between the property of Messrs Ford & Hight of Baltimore, and the Brig "Carrie Bertha" of Portland Maine. ——

Consequently, the basis of this transaction is absurd and untenable, for it is only upon

some new principle, hitherto unknown, that the property of one man can be taken to pay the debts of another.

Therefore, and in view of these facts, and in conformity with my general instructions from the Honorable, the Secretary of State, of the United States, I now, in the name of my Government, do most respectfully protest against the action in the premises of the Customs authorities at Matanzas, and claim for Messrs Lord & Hight, of Baltimore, indemnification for all damages, charges, costs and injuries of whatever nature they may sustain in their interests, by the illegal action of said authorities.

Furthermore

Furthermore, I now most respectfully beg of Your Excellency, to issue a counter-order to the said Customs authorities of Matanzas for the immediate return of said merchandise of Messrs Lord & Hight, of Baltimore, to their agents Messrs Zanetti & Co of Matanzas.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Y. E's Obedient Servant.
(signed) Ramon O. Williams.
Consul General.

Inclosure Nº 2.-
With Dispatch Nº 55-
Harana, October 15th 1884.-
Copy.

Urgent:—

U.S. Consulate General
Harana, October, 15th 1884

To His Excellency,
The Governor General
of this Island.
&c &c &c.

Excellency:

With reference to my communication of yesterday's date concerning the seizure by the Custom House authorities at Matanzas of property belonging to the American firm of Mess Lord Hight, of Baltimore, Md, to cover a debt alleged to be due by the American brig "Carrie Bertha"

of Portland, Maine, with which interest said property has no connection whatever, I have now the honor respectfully to call Your Excellency's attention to the announcement in the accompanying copy of the "Boletin Oficial de Matanzas", received this morning, published by the "Administracion Local de Aduana", to the effect that the property referred to, would be sold at public auction, at the Customs warehouses, on the 14th instant.

In consequence of this strange, unprecedented and illegal measure, I am compelled to request, in the name of the Government of the United States, that Your Excellency will take immediate action in the premises, and order the

suspension

suspension of all further proceedings, and that the said property be released and returned to Messrs Zanetti & Co, the agents of the owners, Messrs Lord & Hight, of Baltimore, Maryland.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Y'r's Obedient Servant.
(signed) Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 22 1884
RECEIVED.

No 56. U. S. Consulate General.

Havana. Oct. 16th 1884

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State

Claim against Ward line

of steamers.

Special instructions requested.

Nº 56. U. S. Consulate General

Havana Oct. 16 1884.

Hon: John Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State

Washington.

Sir.

Referring to my dispatch Nº 36, of the 16th ultimo, and relating to the claim of the Cienfuegos Customs authorities, to collect some $34.314 42 as additional tonnage dues from the American line of steamers run by Messrs James E. Ward & Co, between New York and Cienfuegos, I have now

the honor to inform the
Department that while on
an official visit, on the 14th
instant, to the Governor General,
His Excellency took occasion
to tell me, that the case of
these steamers had been
decided by the Government
of the Island, adversely to
the petition of Messers Godd
Hidalgo & Co, the agents in this
city of Messers James E. Ward
& Co, which I presented to
him accompanied by a
communication from this
office, on the 12th ultimo.

Upon hearing this,
I asked His Excellency, to do
me the favor, before any effort
at

at enforcing the collection should be made by the Government, to communicate the decision to this office, as I desired, in turn, to inform the Department at once upon the subject. But thus far, His Excellency has not sent me any official information.

I have already communicated to the Department: first; that in this case, the steamers of Messrs James E. Ward & Co have paid their tonnage dues as calculated and exacted by the Cienfuegos Custom House;

second; that several years

thereafter, this claim is
presented;
third; that upon appeal
of Messrs James E. Ward & Co,
through their said agents
here, Messrs Todd, Hidalgo & Co,
the Director General of Finance
did release the steamers by
his order dated August 22 1884,
from the collection of said
additional tonnage dues;
fifth; that the above order
of annulment was revoked
on the 5th ultimo by the same
Director General of Finance
who had issued it.

In view of these facts,
and apprehending that
an attempt will soon be

made to seize property of
Messrs James E. Ward & Co,
or of their agents for the
payment of the alleged
debt, I now most respectfully
ask the Department to be
pleased to give me special
instructions upon the subject,
assuring it in the meantime,
that, in accordance with the
general usage in such cases,
I shall protest and exercise
all legal endeavors to prevent
the collection.

I have the honor, to be,

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 23 1884
RECEIVED.

Ans'd + dup. 29
No. 9 Oct. 8th
sent Mr. Edwards

No. 57 U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, October 16th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Acknowledging the receipt of the Department's instructions numbers 10 and 11 of October 9th 1884.

No. 57. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, October 16th 1884.

Hon: William Hunter,
Acting Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instructions numbers 10 and 11, - dated the 9th instant.

The numbers of my several dispatches to the Department have been altered, and now conform to those given in the memorandum accompanying

your No. 10.

The Department's instruction number nine has not yet been received at this office, and I have respectfully to request that a copy of same be furnish=
=ed me.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully.

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 23 1884
RECEIVED

No 558. U. S. Consulate General

Havana Oct: 17th 1884.

Mr Williams to the

Department of State.

Claim against Atkins & Co

line of British steamers.

Special instructions requested.

N° 58. U. S. Consulate General

Havana Oct. 17 1884

Hon. John Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State

Washington.

Sir.

. Referring to my dispatches N° 43 of Sept. 26, N° 46 of October 1st and N° 50 of October 9th, relating to the claim made by the Cuban Treasury against British steamers chartered by Messrs Atkins & Co. of Boston, and plying between that port and Cienfuegos, —

I have now the honor to refer to my dispatch No 56 of the 16th instant, and to state that mutatis mutandis the same remarks therein expressed, regarding the Ward line of steamships, will apply to the case of Messrs Atkins & Co's steamers, and that I shall feel obliged if the Department will give me special instructions to govern my further action.

I have the honor, to be

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Ack by ltr & file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 28 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 59. — U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, October 22 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Gradual abolition of slavery
in Cuba.

Transmitting a slip and
translation of an article
from the "Diario de
Matanzas" of 21st of October
1884.

One inclosure.

No. 59. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, October 22d 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I beg to enclose for the information of the Department translation of a slip extracted from the Diario of Matanzas, of the 21st instant, showing the number of slaves freed, from the 8th of May 1883 to the 7th of same month of 1884, in this Island to be _____ 26,517 and the total number to be 60,550, since the law for gradual emancipation was enacted; thus, leaving some 50,000 persons still in quasi-slavery, yet to be freed in conformity with the provisions of

1.

said law.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
Ramm S. Williams
Consul General

Inclosure.
1. ——— Slip and translation as stated.

Inclosure No. 1 -

With Dispatch No. 59.

Havana, October 22d. 1884.

From the "Diario de Matanzas" ___ of 21st of October, 1884.

El patronato se vá.

Desde el 8 de Mayo de 1883 al 7 del mismo mes del presente año, las seis Juntas de Patronato de la Isla han provisto de cédulas de libre á 26,517 patrocidados. Matanzas figura á la cabeza de todas con 8.833 libertos. El número de antiguos esclavos que han obtenido los beneficios de la libertad, desde la publicación de la nueva Ley, asciende ya á 60.550.

Se calcula que aun restan unos 50.000 individuos en servidumbre provisional y como quiera que los plazos se precipitan y se van adquiriendo los hábitos del trabajo libre, no es aventurado suponer que pronto el patronato habrá dejado de existir.

Translation.

Translation

The patronships is expiring.

From the 8th of May of 1883, to the 7th of the same month of the present year, the six Boards of Patron=ships of the Island have issued certificates of freedom to 26,517 patrocinados = to persons held in an inter=mediate state between slavery and freedom.

Matanzas figures at the head of the list with 8,833 freedmen. The number of slaves, who have obtained the benefits

of freedom since the publica-
-ation of the new law, ascends
now to _____ 60,500
persons.

It is calculated that
50,000 — individuals still
remain in provisional —
slavery, but as the periods
to their bondage approach,
and as they are acquiring
the habits of free labor, it
is not unreasonable to
suppose that the aborion-
-ships will soon disappear

Copy to the Postal
Treaties
Refusing to prevent in-
duction of seamen sub-
ject to a few days of
2 Nov 276
Act - be
kept sus-
pension or
withdrawal of
[illegible]
Appeal which to our
equitable Government
his effort

Aug 7
See 30/84

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 28 1884
RECEIVED.

No 60 -- U.S. Consulate General -
Havana, October 22d 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State

Seizure and attempted sale
of property belonging to
Messrs Lord & Hight of
Baltimore, Maryland, by
the Customs authorities of
Matanzas Cuba.

One inclosure.

No. 60. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, October 22nd 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch No. 55, dated the 15th instant in relation to the 645 hogshead shooks, the property of Messrs Lord & Hight, of Baltimore, Md., consigned to Messrs Zanetti & Co. of Matanzas, which were attached and advertized for sale by the Customs authorities of that port for the collection of a fine alleged to have been incurred by the American brig "Carrie Bertha", arrived from Portland, nigh two years ago, I have now the honor to say, that His Excellency, the Governor General,

informed me officially on the following day, the 16th instant, that he had ordered by telegraph the suspension of the sale, a translated copy of which communication I enclose, herewith, for the information of the Department.

1./

The property, however, is still held by the Matanzas Customs authorities, and its release will now be the object of my endeavors.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure.
1.- The Governor General to Mr. Williams. October 16th 1884

Inclosure N°1.
With Dispatch N°. 60
Harana October 22nd 1884.
Translation-

Memorandum:

The Governor General of the Island of Cuba, has the honor to inform the Consul General of the United States, that a telegram has this day been sent to the Collector of Customs at Matanzas, ordering a suspension of the sale of merchandise the property of Messrs. Lord & Hight, of Baltimore, in conformity with U. S's request.

of yesterday's date.

The Governor General improves this opportunity of repeating to the Consul General of the United States the assurances of his most distinguished respect and consideration.

Harana, October 16th 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 28 1884
RECEIVED.

No 61. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, October 22d 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State

Claim against the Ward line
of steamers by the Customs
authorities of Cienfuegos.

No. 61. — U.S. Consulate General
Havana, October 22nd 1884.

Hon. John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

With reference to my dispatch No. 56, dated the 16th inst., relating to the proposed collection by the Customs authorities of Cienfuegos of ——— $34,314.42 as additional tonnage dues alleged to be owing by the steamers of Messrs James E. Ward & Co. of New York, plying between the latter and former port, I now have the honor to inform the Department that on the evening of Saturday, the 18th instant, I received the official communication, dated the 17th instant

from H. E., being the same one mentioned, as the reply expected, in my said dispatch.

His Excellency, advises this office of his adverse decision to the memorial of Messrs Todd Hidalgo & Co. agents here of Messrs James E. Ward & Co., adding that if the parties to the case, Messrs James E. Ward & Co. should consider themselves, thereby, aggrieved, they still have the right to appeal.

At the same time, instructions were transmitted to the authorities at Cienfuegos to proceed at once to the collection; but upon Messrs Todd Hidalgo & Co.'s receipt of telegraphic information from the Ward's agents at Cienfuegos, they immediately called upon the "Intendente General de Hacienda", to ask for a delay of one month before collection, in order, that

they might be able to communi-
=icate with Messrs James E.
Ward & Co., — which petition
was granted.

This circumstance gives
a breathing spell, and I
shall again address the Depart-
=ment upon the subject, by
steamer of Saturday.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 28 1884
RECEIVED.

No 62. U. S. Consulate General
Havana October 23rd 1884.

Mr Williams to the
Department of State.

Claim against the British line
of steamers chartered by Messrs
E. Atkins & Co of Boston, by
the Customs authorities of
Cienfuegos.

No 52. U. S. Consulate General
Havana October 23 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington

Sir:

Referring to my dispatches
Nº 43. of Sept 26. to 46 of
October 1st and Nº 50 of October
7th, regarding the claim of
the Cienfuegos Custom House
for the sum of - $12.929 13/100
as additional tonnage dues
alleged to be owing by the
British line of steamers, char-
tered by Messrs E. Atkins & Co
of Boston, which were plying
between Cienfuegos and Boston,
I have the honor to inform
the Department, that on
the 18 instant, I received an
official communication dated

the 17 instant, from H. E. the Governor General, in which he advises me of the adverse decision to the representations made by the agents in Cienfuegos of Messrs E Atkins & Co; adding that if they considered themselves aggrieved thereby, they coued appeal.

At the same time instructions were forwarded to Cienfuegos to press the collection.

On the night of the 21st I received a telegram from the Consul in Cienfuegos, reading:

" Atkins case decided by
" Havana to be paid.
" Collector demands payment
" in three days. Atkins cables
" Mazarredo to ask your
" instructions. appeal allowed
" via contenciosa. will bond
" be accepted subject to
" Madrid?-

The next morning at nine

nine oclock; I called upon the Governor General at his country seat, and later, upon H.E. the Intendente General and succeeded in obtaining a delay of one month, the same that had been granted in the analogous case of Messrs James E. Ward & Co's steamers. I then telegraphed the Consul at Cienfuegos to that effect.

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 31 1884
RECEIVED.

File

63

No. 62. — U.S. Consulate General.

Havana. October 23rd 18

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Acknowledging receipt of instructions.

No. 62. — U S Consulate General.

Havana, October 23d 1884.

Hon: William Hunter,
Acting Secretary of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction, — No. 9, of 8th instant, with enclosures, copy of which I requested be sent me, in my number 57, of 16th instant.

I have also received the Department's numbers 12, — 13, — 14, — 15, — 16, — and 17, respectively dated the

10th, 11th, 13th, 13th, 14th and
16th instant, all of which
have my careful attention.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Copy to Mr Foster referring to previous instruction on same subject a few days ago. 22 Nov 274?

63

Hele Copy sent to Mr. Foster.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 31 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 63. — U. S Consulate General.

Havana Oct.r 24th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Royal order of August 18th 1884, requiring masters of vessels, arriving at the ports of the Island of Puerto Rico, to have their manifests translated at their own expense.

64

No 62. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, October 24th 1884.

Hon: William Hunter,

Acting Secretary of State.

Washington,

D.C.

Sir:

Replying to the Department's instruction No 16, dated the 14th inst: enclosing the copy of dispatch No 78 from the Commercial Agent of Mayaguez, Porto Rico, receipt of which is acknowledged in my No 62, and in which he informs the Department of the

abolishment of the office
of Custom House interpret-
-ers in Puerto Rico, and
instead of requiring masters
of vessels to have their man-
-ifests translated at their
own expense, I now have
the honor to say, that up-
upon the plea of economy,
the same office has also
been abolished in this
Island by Royal Order
promulgated in the official
Gazette, on the 24th of June
last past.

In virtue thereof,
the manifests of American
vessels, as well as those
of other nations not

presented

presented in the Spanish language, are translated at a cost to the masters, ranging in each case, from $4.00 to $25.00 a Spanish gold. Thus far, no complaints from masters have reached this office in consequence.

But, as instructed I shall represent the hard=ships and unfairness of the measure to the proper authorities.

I have the honor to be,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Telegram Received.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 25 1884
RECEIVED.

Consulation

Havana, Oct. 25/84

Secretary of State,
Washington.

The ~~Government of the Island of~~ Cuba has conceded delay until 20th November for payment alleged deficiencies tonnage dues British steamers [which] ran between Boston and Cienfuegos by Elisha Atkins & Co. Should recommend earnestly that the subject be immediately presented to the Government of His Majesty Madrid with request that it send by telegraph orders immediately to Governor-General to suspend any further proceedings in the premises, as also in Ward's case, until a decision or a settlement attained through the United States Minister at Madrid.

Williams,
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 31 1884
RECEIVED.

65

No. ~~64~~. — U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, Oct. 25th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Claim of the Cuban Treasury against, Messrs James E. Ward & Co. of New York, and Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co of Boston.

Two inclosures.

65

No 64 U.S. Consulate General

Havana, Oct 25th 1884.

Hon: William Hunter.

Acting Secretary of State.

Washington.

D.C.

Sir:

With particular reference to your instructions Nos 15 and 17, dated the 13th and 16th instant, relating respectively to the alleged deficiences in tonnage dues that the Cuban Treasury proposes to collect from Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co of Boston, and Messrs James E. Ward & Co, of

New York, I now beg to offer the following observations.

In the first place, I consider the Department's determination to refer the latter case to Madrid, as advised in instruction 17, - as the only way of reaching a satisfactory settlement.

For similar reasons, I trust, too, that the case of Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co. of Boston, may likewise be referred, at once, to Madrid. Two and a half years ago, a like course was adopted, with

with success, by the Depart=
=ment, in regard to the
cases then sprung upon
American vessels in many
of the ports of the Island;
all of which, as now, were
traceable directly and
exclusively to the moiety
system, then and still
prevailing. This moiety
business, is ever acting as
an incentive to the employ=
=ees for the getting up and
invention of reclamations
for the half interest that
may come to them. —

Consul General Hall,
took occasion, at that
time, to call the attention

of the Department to the cases in dispute. His observations as well as my own, expressed in my memorandum to him, with which he accompanied his dispatch №. 1116 of March 16. 1882. are yet applicable to the subject. Consequently I now accompany copies of them, for incorporation as part and parcel of this present communication.

1. / 2.

In consequence of the constant annoyances and threatenings to

American interests growing out of the cravings and eagerness of the employees, I have been forced of late to complain verbally to the Authorities, in as polite and conciliatory a manner as possible, against this perturbing element; which without right has crept and intruded itself into the relations between the United States and Spain. I have also expressed to the Governor General, in similar terms, my belief that the Department

will not abide or conform to any adverse adjudic= =ation reached by the Insular Authorities in these cases. Therefore, that anything done here in the premises adverse to the interests of Messrs James E. Ward & Co; or Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co. will be immediately communicated by me to the Department.—

Adding, that in the relations between the United States and Spain, the pretensions of these employees could not be allowed recognition of

any

any sort. Further, that in the premises, it is only with Spain that we have a commercial, treaty, and diplomatic relations. —

That, even with the greater proximity to, and greater commercial intercourse of Cuba with the United States, still it cannot be considered in any other light than as a mere province of Spain, — just in the same manner as are Catalunña, Andalucia, Asturias, Biscaya or Murcia. That, had these cases of Messrs James E. Ward & Co. and

Messrs Elisha Atkins & Co occurred at Barcelona, Cadiz, Bilbao, Santander, or Carthagena, instead of at Cienfuegos, their adjudication would have not been left by the Govern= =ment of the United States, or that of Madrid either, with the corresponding provincial authorities; but would in that case be carried to the Supreme Authorities at the Capital of the nation itself.

And finally, and in consequence, I expressed the expectation that in the present instance, they would be allowed

to

to drop, and rest in abey=
=ance till a decision upon
them, or settlement of
them, should be attained
through our Minister at
Madrid.

In conclusion, I
beg to recommend most
earnestly this subject to
the immediate attention
of the Department.

And remain, Sir,
with great respect;
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure No. 1 –
With Dispatch No. 64 –
Havana, October 25 1884.
Copy.

No. 1116. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, March 16th 1882.

Hon: J.C. Bancroft Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to Mr. Williams' dispatches Nos: 1096 and 1111 of the 25th of January and the 2nd instant, relating to the fines imposed on the steamer "Santiago", of New York, at Cienfuegos, in September last past,

1/ I transmit herewith a memorandum of interviews between Mr Williams and the Director General of Finances and the Governor General in regard to that case.

The interview with the Governor General was at his request. He desired, for the information of the Minister of Ultramar, to be informed whether Mr Williams' communication of the 28th February - a copy of which accompanies dispatch Nº 1111 - was intended as a protest against the collection of the fine or as a request,

request for a temporary suspension. Mr Williams replied that the communication was a solemn protest against the collection of the fine.

In an interview with the Governor General today he informed me that all the papers relating to this case have been called for by the Minister of Ultramar at Madrid, to whom they would be fowarded in a few days.

As the case is now transferred to Madrid I beg leave to suggest, should the course taken by this

Consulate General meet with the approval of the Departm=ment, that our Minister at that Court be instructed to call for a revocation of the fines imposed on the aforesaid steamer.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

(signed) Henry C. Hall

Consul General.

Inclosure.

1. Memorandum: Mr Williams to Mr Hall March 11th 1882.

Inclosure No. 2.
With Dispatch No. 64.
Havana, October 25th 1884.
Copy.

× × × ×

Memorandum for Mr. Hall. — March 11th 1882.

I had occasion to call last week upon the Director General of finances in regard to the fine imposed at Cardenas on the American schooner "Ladie Wilcott", arrived there with a cargo of guano from New London Connecticut.

After we had got

through with this business, the Director General asked me, in rather a quizzing manner, how was it, that I had gone to the Captain General about the affair of the steamer "Santiago," at Cienfuegos, adding that instead of the fine on the steamer being $3,000.-, as I had stated in my communication to the Captain General, that it was $40,000.-

I replied in substance, that it mattered not what the amount might be; I was very sure the Government of the United

United States would not submit to its payment in face of the certificate of the Collector and Auditor of accounts at the port of Cienfuegos, to the effect that the cargo of the "Santiago" had been found upon discharge, to be in perfect accord with the manifest presented by the Captain on arrival. To this he replied, that they had the counter statement of Don Carlos de Arango, the special agent appointed for the fiscalization of this cargo. Upon this the Chief Clerk, who had been

called, remarked that
it was quite a hardship
that the officers or employees
should be deprived of their
part of the fines by the
Captain General after the
Minister of the Colonies
had ordered the collection.

I inferred from the tenor
and tendency of the conv-
ersation, that the Director
General, was as much
disappointed as the Chief
Clerk, at being debarred
from enforcing the collection:
and at this point I withdrew.

In accordance
with the message you
communicated to me
from

from the Captain General, I called upon him at the Palace the next (Thursday) afternoon.

He told me he desired to know if the object of my communication in regard to the same steamer, the "Santiago" was to ask for the suspension of the fine, as a concession from the Spanish Government, or whether it was a solemn protest against its enforcement. I replied that it was a solemn protest against the collection, until the matter should be settled

between the two Governments.

He said his reason for asking this was, that the Minister of the Colonies had misunderstood his telegram, taking it to mean that I had asked the suspension as a favor. instead of a right and, therefore, refused the petition, ordering the collection of the $40.000-

But that he had answered back to Madrid the same morning, saying that he had ordered the suspension, because of my protest, and the assurance that the case was now a matter of negotiation between the two

Governments, adding, that as soon as he received an answer, he would inform you of its nature.

I am, Sir,

most respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

(Signed) Ramon O. Williams

Vice Consul General

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 31 1884
RECEIVED.

File - Commerce

66

No. ~~25~~. U.S. Consulate General
Havana Oct. 25 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State

Advising transmission of a
telegram in cypher.

66

No 65.

U. S. Consulate General
Havana Oct: 25' 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington

Sir:

I have the honor to advise the transmission of a telegram in cypher, reading as follows:

" Secretary of State
" Washington.
" Government of the Island
" of Cuba has conceded
" delay until twentieth
" November for payment
" alleged deficiencies tonnage
" dues British steamers
" ran between Boston and
" Cienfuegos by Elisha Atkins
" & Co. Would recommend

" earnestly that the subject be
" immediately presented to the
" Government of His Majesty,
" Madrid, with request that
" it send by telegraph orders
" immediately to Governor
" General to suspend any
" further proceedings in the
" premises, and also in Ward's
" case, until a decision or
" settlement be attained through
" the Minister of the United
" States at Madrid"

I am Sir,
Very respectfully
Your obedient servant,
Robert T. Williams
Consul General.

approve

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 5 1884
RECEIVED.

St Clair

67

No. 66. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, October 27th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Temporary recognition of
Mr. James H. Springer, as
Vice Commercial Agent of the
United States at San Juan
de los Remedios, and
permission granted him
to assume the duties of that
office by the Governor General
of Cuba.

No. 56 U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, October 27th. 1884.

Hon: William Hunter -
Acting Secretary of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

Referring to the receipt of the Department's No 14 of the 11th instant, I have now to state that I applied to the Governor General of this Island, on the 22nd instant, for temporary recognition of Mr James H. Springer, as Vice Commercial Agent of the United States at San Juan de los Remedios,—

and permission for him to assume the duties of that office, which was promptly granted on the 24th instant.

Mr Springer left this port for Caibarien, on the morning of the 25th - and will duly report to the Department upon arrival at his post.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 5 1884
RECEIVED.

St Clair

68

No. ~~67~~ U. S. Consulate General

Havana, October 28th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Fine of $2000.- imposed upon the American Schooner "Louise A. Orr", by the Customs authorities of Havana, reported to the Department in dispatch N° 53, of October 15th 1884.

No. 67. U. S. Consulate General.

Havana, October 28th 1884.

Hon: William Hunter.
Acting Secretary of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

Referring to your instruction No. 14, dated the 13th instant, relating to the fine of $2000. imposed upon the American schooner "Louise A. Orr", for having manifested on her late trip to Havana an excess of ten packages of iron fittings over what she really loaded or discharged, — the same

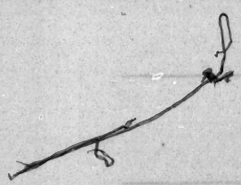
being the property of the Spanish Government, and consigned here to the chief of the Navy Department, I now have the honor to say, that I have already informed the Department in my No. 53 dated the 15th instant of having presented the subject of this fine to the attention of His Excellency, the Governor General, with the view of obtaining its rescindment.

Thus far, no answer has been received at this office, but I do not doubt that the application will receive, though perhaps tardy, still due consideration.

I

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.



Correction made Jan. 19-85

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 6 1884
RECEIVED.

No 69

No ~~68~~ U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, November 1st 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Requesting that Dispatch
No. 31, be corrected, by the
insertion of words omitted
in transcribing original
draft.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 6 1884
RECEIVED.

69

No. 68. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, November 1st 1884.

Hon: William Hunter,
Acting Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

With reference to my dispatch of September 15th, numbered 31, and in order to perfect the sense of the same, I have to request that you will please cause to be inserted in the last sentence, between the words country and may, the following, omitted in transcribing from original draft; - without political detriment to itself; that the last clause, may read "that our country, without political detriment to itself, may substitute -" &c.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Very.

respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 6 1884
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Dispatch

Dr McClure

No 70

U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Nov 1st 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Customs Revenues of the Island of Cuba.

Transmitting a slip taken from the "Havana Weekly Report" of November 1st 1884, showing a decrease in the revenue of the Customs of this Island, during the month of August 1884 of the present year, as compared with same date of last year, to be, $488.354.00

One inclosure.

70

No 69. — U.S. Consulate General.

Habana, November 1st, 1884.

Hon: William Hunter.
Acting Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I beg to inclose herewith, a slip taken from the "Habana Weekly Report," of this date, giving the amounts of revenue collected by the several Custom Houses of this Island during the month of August of the present year, and showing a decrease of — $488,354.^{60} as compared with the same month of last year. 1./

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure No. 1.
With Dispatch No. 69.
Havana, November 1st, 1884.

Slip from the "Havana Weekly Report" of Saturday November 1st 1884.

Cuban Custom Houses.

According to the statement published by the Director General of the Treasury, collections at the Custom Houses of the Island, during the month of August, amounted to $ 945,386-63

Against last year..... „ 1.433,741-53

Decrease this year..... $ 488,354-90

Of above total were collected:

At Havana.....	$	706,453-01
„ Matanzas.....	„	37,663-47
„ Cardenas.....	„	27,932-21
„ St. Jago.....	„	52,736-23
„ Cienfuegos	„	68,018-84
„ Sagua la Grande.....	„	18,039-11
„ Caibarien.....	„	3,863-41
„ Guantanamo	„	14,449-79
„ Trinidad	„	258-22
„ Nuevitas	„	6,327-34
„ Manzanillo.....	„	2,266-26
„ Gibara.....	„	3,011-44
„ Baracoa.....	„	1,447-38
„ Zaza	„	2,069-21
„ Santa Cruz.....	„	850-71

The above figures show a difference of $448,354-90 against the present year compared with the corresponding month in 1883 which, after deducting $196,948-78 on account of the recent reductions of duties, still show a falling off of $292,416-12.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 12 1884
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Ans'd Nov. 15'84
Dft St Clair

No 70 — U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, November 4th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Acknowledging receipt of instruction No. 18, of October 24th 1884, enclosing copy of a letter from Mr. W. B. R. Johnson of Allentown - Pennsylvania.

71

No. 70 U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, November 4th 1884.

Hon: William Hunter.
Second Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your instruction No. 18 of October 24th ultimo, regarding the request of Mr W. B. R. Johnson, of Allentown, Pennsylvania, for a permit from the Authorities of this Island, to load vessels with lumber on the South side of the Isle of Pines, and which will allow them to proceed on their voyages, after due clearance at the nearest port of entry, without obliging them to go there for that purpose.

As a new

Governor General has been lately appointed to the command of this station, and who is expected here within the present week, I have thought it best to await his arrival, when I will present the subject to his consideration and report the result to the Department.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

James D. Williams

Consul General.

Con

The interested parties have

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 12 1884
RECEIVED.

Ans'd Nov. 15. 84 Dft Hclair

seen this - Ack & approved &c-

7/2

No. 44. U. S. Consulate General

Havana, Nov.r 5th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Seizure and proposed sale of 645 bundles of hogshead shooks, belonging to Messrs Lord & Hight, of Baltimore Md., by the Customs Author=ities of Matanzas, Cuba.

Two inclosures.

72

No 71. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, Nov^r 5th 1884.

Hon: William Hunter,

Second Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington.

D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch No 60. of 22^d October 1884, regarding the seizure and proposed sale, by the Customs authorities of Matanzas, of 645 bundles of hogshead shooks belonging to Messrs Lord & Night of Baltimore, Maryland, and in accordance with the purport of same, I have now the honor to

report that having again addressed the Governor General upon the subject, on the 14th and 15th of October ultimo, I received his reply, dated October 22nd, 1884, copy and translation of which, I annex hereto, informing me that the Intendant General of Finance had sent instructions to the Administrator of the Public Treasury at Matanzas, ordering the disembargo of said mer= =chandise.

1.

Some misunderstand= =ing having occurred in relation to the matter between

between the Administrator of the Public Treasury of Matanzas and Mr Vickers, I called upon the Intendant General of Finance, who promised to give the matter his attention.

Accordingly, upon the 31st ultimo, I received a communication from H.E. informing me that instructions had been sent under that date to the Administrator of the Public Treasury of Matanzas to raise the embargo upon said property, copy of which I immediately sent Mr Vickers for his guidance, and now accompany copy and translation of same

for

for the information of the Department.

As yet I have no information from Consul Vickers of the delivery of the property referred to, to the agents of Messrs Lord & Hight.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramm O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosures:

No. 1.- The Governor General to Mr Williams, October 22nd, 1884.

" 2.- The Intendant General of Finance to Mr Williams, October 31st, 1884.

Inclosure No. 1 -
With Dispatch No. 71 -
Havana, November 5th 1884.

Translation:

General Government of the
Island of Cuba.
Office of the Secretary.

Political Bureau.
General Affairs.
Reg: No 23,543.

By the Intendency General of the Treasury, the following is communicated to His Excellency the Governor General.

"Excellency:

In reply to Y.E.'s official communications, transmitting those of the Consul General of the United States of America, in this Island,

with reference to the embargo at Matanzas of a lighter containing 645 bundles of shooks, brought there by the American bark "Falmouth", and consigned to Messrs Zanetti & Co., I have now to inform you that said embargo has been made in consequence of a debt due by the aforesaid Messrs Zanetti & Co., being one half the amount of the fine imposed upon the American brig "Carrie Bertha", about the end of the year 1882; the other half of which was condoned by the Govern= =ment of His Majesty, at H.E's instance, the 16th day of April of the year 1883.

In consequence of reclamation by the Consul of the Nation aforesaid at Matanzas, a communication has been addressed, under

this date, to the Administrator general of the Treasury of the Province, ordering that if judicial proceedings of compulsion have not been instituted against those gentlemen, he shall exhaust this procedure, by embargoing property belonging to them, and raise the embargo on the lighter in question.

In due course I shall have the honor of reporting to Y.E. the result of these steps."

Which by order of H.E., I have the honor to transcribe to S.H. for your information, and in reply to your communication of the 14th instant.

God preserve S.H. many years.

Harana, 22d October 1884.

Mariano Arredondo.

To

To the Consul General
of the United States.

Copy.

Copy:

Gobierno General de
la Isla de Cuba.

Secretaria.

Seccion de Politica
Asuntos Generales.
R. g. No. 23,543.

Por la Intendencia General de Hacienda, con fecha 18 del del actual, se dice ab Excmo Sr Gobernador General lo siguiente:

Excelentisimo Senor:

En contestacion á los oficios de V.E. trasladandome los del Sr Cónsul de los Estados Unidos de América en esta Isla, refer-
=entes al embargo en Matanzas de una lancha conteniendo 645 paquetes duelas conducidas

"por la barca americana
"Falmouth" á la consignacion
de los Sres Zanetti y compa,
debo manifestarle que dicho
embargo se ha hecho á
consecuencia de adeudar
los referidos Sres Zanetti y
Compañia la mitad de la
multa impuesta al bergantin
amo "barrie Bertha," á
fines del año 1882, cuya
otra mitad fue condonada
por el Gobierno de S. M.
á propuesta de V. E. en 16
de Abril de 1883.

A consecuencia de
reclamacion del Sr Cónsul
de la referida Nacion en
Matanzas se ha oficiado
en esta fecha al Señor
Administrador prtal
de Hacienda de la provincia
disponiendo que si no se ha
formado expediente de apremio
á los referidos Sres se

agote esta via embargando los bienes de su pertenencia y que se desembargue la lancha en cuestion.

Del resultado de estas gestiones tendré el honor de dar cuenta á V.E. oportunamente."

Lo que de órden de S.E. tengo el honor de trascribir á V.S. para su conocimiento y como contestacion á su escrito de 14 del mes actual.

Dios guarde á V.S. m.s a.s.

Habana, 22 de Octubre de 1884.

(signed) Mariano Arredondo.

Sr. Cónsul Gral de los Estados Unidos de América.

Inclosure No. 2
With Dispatch No. 71.
Havana, November 5th 1884.
Translation.

Memorandum

The Intendant General of Finances, has the honor to inform the Consul General of the United States of America, that under this date, instructions have been sent to the Chief Administrator of Public Finance of Matanzas to raise the embargo placed upon the 645 bundles of hogshead shooks belonging to Messrs Lord & Night, American

merchants.

Mr. Lucas Garcia Ruiz improves this occasion to repeat to Mr. Ramon O. Williams, the assurances of his esteem and consideration

Harana 31st Oct. 1884.

Copy

Copy.—

El Intendente General
de Hacienda.-

B. L. M.

al Sr. Consul General de
los Estados Unidos de
América y tiene el honor
de participarle que con
esta fecha se dan las órdenes
oportunas á la Administración
Prcal de Hacienda de
Matanzas, para que
se desembarguen los 645
paquetes de duelas de la
propiedad de los Sres
Lord & Hight, comerciantes
americanos.

Dios

D.n Lucas García Ruiz, aprovecha esta oportunidad para reiterar al Sor D.n Ramon O. Williams los sentimientos de su aprecio y consideracion

Habana, 31 de Octubre de 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 14 1884
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Con

Dispatch

St. Clair

No. 43

U. S. Consulate General.

Havana, Nov^r 7^th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State

Reporting the receipt of Regium Exequatur from the Government of Spain

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One inclosure.

43

No. 7 — U. S. Consulate General.

Havana, November 1st 1884.

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant
Secretary of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report having received on the 5th instant, a communication from the General Government of this Island, dated 31st of October ultimo, accompanying my Regium Exequatur from the Government of Spain, recognizing me officially as Consul General

of the United States of America at this port.

I inclose copy and translation of the communication referred to.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Romm D. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure:

1.- The Secretary of the General Government of Cuba to Mr Williams, Havana, October 31st, 1884.

Inclosure No. 1.
With Dispatch No. 42 -
Harana, November 7th 1884.
Translation —

General Government —
of the Island of Cuba.
Office of the Secretary.
Political Bureau -
Personal.

The Ministry of
Ultramarine Provinces, —
under date of 8th instant
communicates to His Excel-
-lency the Governor General,
the following Royal order.
"Excellency: —
The Minister

of State reports to the Minister of Ultramar, under date of 30th September ultimo, as follows:

"Excellency:

The King (whom God preserve) being informed of the proceedings instituted by virtue of the appointment of Consul General of the United States, conferred upon Mr Ramon O. Williams, N. M. has been pleased to grant him the customary Regium Exequatur, under the same conditions imposed upon all Consuls of other nations in the Ultramarine Provinces of Spain, in accordance with Royal

order of 24th March 1829, and
in consonance with the
prescriptions of the Regulations
of 3d July 1848.

"By Royal order I
communicate the same to
Y.E. for your information,
accompanying herewith
the Regium Exequatur
herein mentioned, in order
that you will please
transmit it to the Governor
General of Cuba as custom=
=ary.

Therefore, in accord=
=ance with the said Royal
order, as communicated by
H.E. the Minister of
Ultramar I transcribe

the same to J. E. accompanying herewith the document referred to, for the purposes herein indicated.

And, H. E. having ordered due compliance therewith, under date of 28th instant, by his instruction I have the honor to transcribe the foregoing to Y. A. for your information and guidance.

Habana, 31st October 1884

Mariano Arredondo.

To the Consul General of the United States of America

copy

Copy.

Gobierno General de la
Isla de Cuba.
Secretaria.
Seccion de Politica.
Personal.

Por el Ministerio de Ultramar, con fecha 8 del actual, se comunica al Exmo Sor Gobernador General, la Real órden que sigue:

Exmo Señor: —

El Señor Ministro de Estado, dice al de Ultramar con fecha 30 de Setiembre ultimo, lo siguiente: —

Exmo Señor:

Enterado el Rey (q. D. g.)
del expediente instruido con
motivo del nombramiento
de Consul General de los
Estados Unidos en la Habana
hecho á favor de Mr Ramon
O. Williams, S. M. ha
tenido á bien concederle
el Regium Exequatur
de costumbre bajo la
condicion impuesta
igualmente á todos los
Cónsules de las demas
naciones en las provincias
de España en Ultramar
segun Real órden de
24 de Marzo de 1829,
y con arreglo á las
prescripciones del

Reglamento de 3 de Julio de 1848.

De Real orden lo participo á V.E. para su conocimiento y con inclusion del expresado Exequatur, á fin de que se sirva trasmitirlo al Gobernador General de Cuba para los efectos de costumbre"

De la propia Real órden comunicada por el Sōr Ministro de Ultramar lo traslado á V.E. con inclusion del documento que se cita para los efectos que se expresan en el anterior inserto."

Y

Y acordado por S.E.
en 28 del corriente su cumplimiento, de su órden tengo el honor de trascribirlo á V.S. para su conocimiento y demas efectos.

Dios guarde á V.S. m.s a.s
Habana, 31 de Octubre 1884.
Mariano Arredondo.

Sor Consul Gral de los Estados Unidos de América.

on

Ackdg no 4
File
74

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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Dft Clair

No. 74. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, November 7th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Property of Messrs Lord & Wright, of Baltimore Md. embargoed by the Customs authorities of Matanzas, and subsequently ordered to be released by the Superior authorities of the Island

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74

No. 71 — U.S. Consulate General

Havana, November 7th 1884.

Hon: William Hunter

Second Assistant

Secretary of State.

Washington.

D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch No. 71 of 5th instant, regarding the seizure of merchandise belonging to Messrs Lord & Hight, of Baltimore, at Matanzas, I have now to report that under yesterday's date I am in receipt of a letter from our Consul at Matanzas,

Mr Vickers, in which he informs me that on the 3d instant he received a letter from the Administrator of the Public Treasury of Matanzas, informing him that he had ordered the Custom House to deliver the shooks in question to Messrs Zanetti & Co. He further states that they had not yet been returned, but would be in a day or so.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Copy to the Forties for information

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 14 1884
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No. 75

Dept. St. Clair

U. S. Consulate General.

Habana, Nov. 7th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Transmitting a slip, and translation of same, from the Official Gazette of Habana, of November 5th instant, relating to a Royal order, granting to France benefits conceded the United States by the Commercial Agreement with Spain, of 13th February 1884.

One Inclosure

45

No. 774. U.S. Consulate General

Harana, November 7th 1884.

Hon: William Hunter.
Second Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I inclose, herewith, for the information of the Department a slip and translation of a Royal order, published in the Official Gazette of this city the 5th instant, declaring that France is by treaty entitled to all the benefits and advantages conceded to the United States by virtue of the Commercial agreement with Spain of February 13th 1884.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure
1. As stated.

Inclosure No. 1 -
With Dispatch No. 74 -
Havana, November 7th 1884.

From the "Gaceta Oficial"
of Havana, November 5th, 1884.

Intendencia General de Hacienda.

Por el correo del 18 de Setiembre último, se ha recibido en el Gobierno General la Real órden siguiente:

"Ministerio de Ultramar.—Número 1320.—Excmo. Sr.—Con esta fecha comunico al Sr. Ministro de Estado la Real órden siguiente:—Excelentísimo Señor.—Examinada por este Ministerio la reclamacion del representante de Francia, sobre que se apliquen al comercio y navegacion de su país con las islas de Cuba y Puerto Rico, los beneficios concedidos á los Estados Unidos de América, como consecuencia del acuerdo con los mismos en 13 de Febrero último. Visto su artículo 1.° y tambien el 14 y 31 del pacto que existe entre Francia y España; S. M. el Rey (q. D. g.) ha tenido á bien disponer se manifieste á V. E., que este Ministerio entiende que asiste á Francia perfecto derecho para gozar de los beneficios concedidos á los Estados Unidos en el último convenio y por lo tanto, á la 3.ª columna del Arancel de Cuba y Puerto Rico á los productos y procedencias francesas.—De Real órden lo traslado á V. E. para su conocimiento y efectos correspondientes.—Dios guarde á V. E. muchos años.—Madrid, 26 de Agosto de 1884.—Tejada."

Y puesto el cúmplase por el Excmo. Sr. Gobernador General, se publica en la Gaceta oficial para general conocimiento.

Habana, Octubre 31 de 1884.

Lúcas Garcia Ruiz.

Translation.

Translation:

General Intendancy of Finance.

By the mail of 18th of September ultimo, the Government General has received the following Royal order.

"Ministry of Ultra=marine Provinces.- Nº 1320.-

"Excellency:

Under this date I transmit to Y.E. the Minister of State the following Royal order:

Excellency:

This Ministry

having examined the reclam=
=ation of the representative
of France, asking for the
application to the commerce
and shipping of his country,
in trade with the Islands
of Cuba and Puerto Rico,
of the benefits conceded to
the United States of America
in consequence of the agree=
=ment entered into with the
same, the 13th day of
February ultimo.

In view of Article
1st, as also of Articles 14 and
31st of treaty stipulations
existing between France and
Spain; H. M. the King
(whom God preserve) has

been

been pleased to order that
Y.E. be informed that this
Ministry understands that
France has a perfect right
to enjoy the benefits conceded
the United in the last agree-
-ment, and therefore the
products of France, and those
proceeding therefrom, are
entitled to entry under the
3d. column of the Tariff of
Cuba and Puerto Rico.

By Royal order
I transmit the same to Y.E.
for your information and
its corresponding effects.

God preserve Y.E many years.
Madrid 2nd of August 1884.

Tejada.

And due compliance
therewith having been ordered
by His Excellency the
Governor General, the
foregoing is published
in the Official Gazette
for the general information
of the public.

Harana October 31st 1884.

Lucas Garcia Ruiz.

The treaty now in operation is intended to obviate this question of discrimination in respect of transit goods.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 14 1884
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Ans'd Nov. 19. 84

St Clair

No. 275

U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, November 7th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Reporting a violation of the Commercial Agreement between the United States and Spain of February 13th 1884, and transmitting copy of a letter from Messrs Calixto Lopez & Co. of New York, as also copy of invoice of coffee shipped from New York to Havana, per Am. S.S. 'Saratoga', the original Bills of Lading for same, and copy of duties claimed by the Customs authorities of Havana, on said merchandise in contravention to the Agreement aforesaid.

Four inclosures.

No. 75 U. S. Consulate General.

Havana, November 7th 1884.

Hon: William Hunter.
Second Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to call the special attention of the Department to the within case, reported to this Consulate General, by Mr Manuel Lopez, now here and partner of the American firm of Messrs Calixto Lopez & Co., of New York City.

The facts, as stated in the accompanying letter — briefly summed, are as follows: viz,

Those gentlemen, under the impression that the — Commercial Agreement entered into between the United States and Spain, at Madrid on the

13th: of February last past, had for
object the abolition of the Differ-
ential Duties on the part of
Spain, and the Retaliatory Duties
on the part of the United States,
hitherto, mutually imposed on
the trade between the United
States, Cuba and Puerto Rico;
and conversely between those
Islands, and the United States,
did on the 16th of last month
ship in the port of New York, on
board the American steamer
"Saratoga", bound for Havana,
1/ 125 Bags of Coffee—
126/286 = 161/286. " " " " , as per
2/3. accompanying original Bills of
Lading, and copy of invoice, to be
delivered to Messrs Segundo
Alvarez & Co., merchants of this
City.

But on the landing of this
coffee here, the Custom House
authorities contrary to the only
purpose and object of the said

Commercial

Commercial Agreement, i.e.,
of putting the vessels of both
nations on an equality, exacts
a differential duty, pretending
to collect it according to the 4th
column of the Tariff, instead
of according to the 3d column;
there resulting, in consequence,
a difference of duties of ——
$ 6y. 56/100, Spanish Bank Bills, and
" 608. 11/100, " Gold, as per
accompanying statement, which /4.
is nothing more or less than
the pretension to collect a
differential duty on transit
cargo brought to Cuba in
American vessels, in order to
give the carriage of such transit
cargo between the United States,
and Cuba, and Puerto Rico,
exclusively to Spanish bottoms,
in partial violation of the intention
and meaning of the Agreement
of the 13th February last, and in
part a reversion by Spain to

the same treatment extended to our vessels, which provoked the special message upon the subject, addressed to Congress, by President Jackson in 1834, which ended in the enactment, as an offset, of our Retaliatory Duties, — the abolition of the one as cause, and the other as effect, it was the only object of the said Agreement of 13th Feby. of the present year.

In this connection, and for reasons that may be discerned in my separate and confidential dispatch No. 10, dated September 26th ultimo, the article Jerked Beef, hitherto, forming one of the prime elements of the circuit of trade carried on between Barcelona, Montivideo, and Havana, at the expense of American sugar consumers, is now being carried from the river Plata to New York, and

from thence brought to Havana.

Now, as a consequence; if this interpretation put by the Customs officials here upon the Agreement of February 13th/84, is allowed; then American vessels will be shut out from carrying this Jerked Beef between New York and Havana, and the business will be monopolized solely by Spanish shipping; thus showing conclusively that the Differential Duties have not yet been totally abolished by Spain.

Awaiting the Department's instructions on this subject,

I have the honor to be, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosures. (ores).

Inclosures.

1.- Messrs Calixto Lopez & Co, to Wm Williams, Havana Nov 4/84.

2.- Copy of invoice of 286 Bags of Coffee, dated New York, Oct 16th 1884.

3.- Original Bills of Lading of same, dated New York October 16th 1884.

4.- Copy of statement showing difference of duties, dated Havana October 29th 1884.

Inclosure No: 1 -
With Dispatch N° 45 -
Harana, November 7th. 1884.
Copy.

Mr Ramon O. Williams -
Consul General of the
United States of America.
Harana.

Sir:

We are in receipt of a letter from Messrs Segundo Alvarez & Co., of this City, dated the 30th of October ultimo, wherein they inform us of having received an invoice declaring 286 - Bags of Coffee - consigned to them and shipped by Messrs Calixto Lopez & Co., of New York, on board the Am^n SS. "Saratoga", on the 16th day of same month.

On the arrival of said steamship at this port

these gentlemen made the regular entry of said coffee as per invoice and bills of lading in the Custom House of this port, to have the duties paid by the 3d column of the Tariff as applied to merchandise coming from the United States; inherefore, the officers of the Custom House objected, compelling them to pay under the fourth column of the Tariff, or making a deposit which amount should cover the difference there is between the third and fourth column of the Tariff, and claiming that such law was only applicable to American products. In view of this, Messrs Segundo Alvarez & Co. claim that this difference will be charged to us in our account, because we are the shippers and purchasers of said goods.

We

We must beg you, as the representative of the American Government, to inform us whether it is or not applicable to both countries or flags, the Commer-
=cial agreement which was published in the official papers of both countries, compromised between Mr. Foster, as Special Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Government of the United States of America at Madrid, and the Spanish Government on the first day of March of the present year - 1884. Wherefore both Governments agree and declare the abolishment of taxes to vessels and merchand-
=ise coming from the ports of the United States into Cuba and Puerto Rico. Wherein they classify in the third column of the Revenue Tariff all merchandise or Products and

Procedencies from either of these countries, coming in American or Spanish vessels

Our house in New York made the shipment of said goods in American vessel on account of the agreement between these two Governments as aforesaid.

Waiting for an immediate action in the interest of truth and justice,

We remain, Sir,

Your Obedient Servants.

(Signed) Calixto Lopez & Co

Habana, November 4th 1884.

Inclosure N°2 -
With Dispatch N°. 75 -
Harana, Novembre 7th 1884.
Copy.

Invoice of 286 Bags of Coffee, consigned to and for account and risk of Messrs Segundo Alvarez & C° of Harana, shipped on board the Am.n S.S. "Saratoga" whereof Mc Intosh is command-
-er

286 Bags of Coffee weighing 55641 lbs at 10 cts each.			$ 5698.20
Bags for same.	$	147.38	
Cartage.	"	51.90	
Transportation from Guaira to N.Y.	"	337.13	
Exportation duties	"	246.54	
Commission and other expenses	"	244.00	1087.75
Total Span: gold.			$ 6785.95

New York, October 16th 1884.
(signed) Calixto Lopez & C.ª

Inclosure No. 4.
With Dispatch No. 175.
Harana, November 4th 1884.
Copy —

Duties on 286 Bags of Coffee
according to the 3d column of
the Revenue Tariff as decreed
and applicable to American
procedencies — — —

	Bank Bills	Gold
	$ 242.92	$ 218.629
Duties on same according to the fourth column, as they want	" 3104.27	94.40
Making a difference against us of =	$ 64.56.	608.11

Harana October 29th 1884.
(signed) Segundo Alvarez & Co

Weight of each Entry must be specified on this Bill of Lading in Kilos.

THE SHIP WILL NOT BE HELD LIABLE FOR LEAKAGE OR CONDITION OF CONTENTS UPON DELIVERY.

NEW YORK AND CUBA MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.
JAMES E. WARD & CO., Agents,
113 WALL ST., NEW YORK.

TODD, HIDALGO & CO., Agents,
HAVANA.

Sale 1/125

Enclosure No 3 -
With Dispatch No 45 -
Harman Meerlieff 1894

Charges,
Lighterage, 25 99
Freight, 64 96
Primage, 3 95
Spanish Gold, $ 94 20

NEW YORK TO HAVANA.

Shipped, in apparent good order and well-conditioned, by Calixto Chez Hev

on board the Steamship Saratoga whereof is Commander, now lying in the Port of NEW YORK, and bound for HAVANA (with liberty to call at any Port or Ports for whatever purpose, to sail with or without Pilots, and to tow or assist vessels in all situations). To say:

Sale 1/125 One Hundred & twenty five
11812 Kgms Bags Coffee
11500 " Nett
Val 3125

being marked and numbered as per margin, to be conveyed upon the said Steamship unto the aforesaid Port of Havana, in like good order and condition (the act of God, the country's enemies, restraints of Governments, pirates, robbers, thieves, vermin, jettison, and all accidents, loss and damage whatsoever from machinery, boilers and steam navigation, or from perils of the seas, and rivers, or from any act, neglect, or default whatsoever, of the Pilot, Master, or Mariners, being excepted); neither the ship nor owners being liable, and to be there delivered, within reach of the Steamship's tackles, unto

Order

or his or their assigns, upon the payment by him or them of Steamship freight and charges, as entered in the margin hereof, with primage and average accustomed.

It is expressly stipulated that the articles named in this Bill of Lading shall be at the risk of the owner, shipper or consignee thereof, as soon as delivered from the tackles of the Steamer in the aforesaid Port of Havana, and they shall be received by the consignee thereof, package by package, as so delivered; and if not taken away without delay, they may (at the option of the Steamer's agent) be sent to store, permitted to lay where landed, or returned to the port of shipment, at the expense and risk of the aforesaid owner, shipper or consignee. The Collector of the Port is hereby authorized to grant a general order for discharge immediately after the entry of the Steamship at the Custom House.

In case any claim shall arise against the Steamship or the owners thereof, for any loss or damage accruing to the above merchandise while on the voyage from New York to Havana, such claim (in all cases to be based upon the value of the articles at the port of shipment upon the date of shipment) shall be preferred at the office of the Agent for the Steamship in Havana within three days after the merchandise shall have been delivered. And in case such claim, whatever it may be, shall not be preferred within the time and at the place designated, such loss or damage shall be deemed to be waived, and the Steamship, and the owners thereof, shall be discharged therefrom.

In case the Steamship shall be detained at the Quarantine of the Port of Havana, and there discharge the articles named in this Bill of Lading, that all risk and liability to the Steamship, or to the owners thereof, shall cease, and the obligations of the Steamship under this Bill of Lading be deemed to have been fully accomplished, when the articles shall have been delivered from the tackles of the Steamship, and all risk and expense incurred thereafter shall be on account of the aforesaid owner, shipper, or consignee. Weight, contents and value unknown, and not answerable for leakage, rust, heat, breakage, or natural decay of goods, or damage to the packages from said causes, or for damage by rats, or for unavoidable exposure to weather, and that the Steamship and the owners thereof shall not be responsible for gold, silver, precious stones or metals, jewelry, nor treasure of any kind, nor for any package worth over $500, unless Bills of Lading, in which the value of the articles is stated, are signed therefor.

No Bill of Lading is signed for a less sum than $5.25.

In Witness Whereof, the Agent of said Steamship hath signed three Bills of Lading, all of this tenor and date, one whereof being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Dated at NEW YORK, this 16th day of Oct 188 4

Ford

Calixto Lopez & Co

Segundo Alvarez & Co

NEW YORK TO HAVANA.

Weight or ozon must be specified on this Bill of Lading in kilos.

Weight of each Entry must be specified on this Bill of Lading in Kilos.

THE SHIP WILL NOT BE HELD LIABLE FOR LEAKAGE OR CONDITION OF CONTENTS UPON DELIVERY.

NEW YORK AND CUBA MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

JAMES E. WARD & CO., Agents,

113 WALL ST., NEW YORK.

TODD, HIDALGO & CO., Agents,

HAVANA.

S. a & Co. 126/286
" " " 119
" " 120.

Charges,

Lighterage, 33 88

Freight, 84 71

Primage, 4 24

Spanish Gold, $ 122 83

NEW YORK TO HAVANA.

Shipped, in apparent good order and well-conditioned, by Calista Lopez & Co.

on board the Steamship Saratoga whereof is Commander, now lying in the Port of NEW YORK, and bound for HAVANA (with liberty to call at any Port or Ports for whatever purpose, to sail with or without Pilots, and to tow or assist vessels in all situations). To say:

S. A & Co. 126/286 One hundred & sixty one Bags coffee 14496 10 Gross 14093 " Neto. Val $4000

S. A & Co. 119 one Bags Cocoa 6972 Neto Val $4000

S. A & Co 120. one Pckge Rubber Belting 109 Kg 10 Neto $ 80. Val

being marked and numbered as per margin, to be conveyed upon the said Steamship unto the aforesaid Port of Havana, in like good order and condition (the act of God, the country's enemies, restraints of Governments, pirates, robbers, thieves, vermin, jettison, and all accidents, loss and damage whatsoever from machinery, boilers and steam navigation, or from perils of the seas, and rivers, or from any act, neglect, or default whatsoever, of the Pilot, Master, or Mariners, being excepted); neither the ship nor owners being liable, and to be there delivered, within reach of the Steamship's tackles, unto

Segundo Alvarez & Co.

or his or their assigns, upon the payment by him or them of Steamship freight and charges, as entered in the margin hereof, with primage and average accustomed.

It is expressly stipulated that the articles named in this Bill of Lading shall be at the risk of the owner, shipper or consignee thereof, as soon as delivered from the tackles of the Steamer in the aforesaid Port of Havana, and they shall be received by the consignee thereof, package by package, as so delivered; and if not taken away without delay, they may (at the option of the Steamer's agent) be sent to store, permitted to lay where landed, or returned to the port of shipment, at the expense and risk of the aforesaid owner, shipper or consignee. The Collector of the Port is hereby authorized to grant a general order for discharge immediately after the entry of the Steamship at the Custom House.

In case any claim shall arise against the Steamship or the owners thereof, for any loss or damage accruing to the above merchandise while on the voyage from New York to Havana, such claim (in all cases to be based upon the value of the articles at the port of shipment upon the date of shipment) shall be preferred at the office of the Agent for the Steamship in Havana within three days after the merchandise shall have been delivered. And in case such claim, whatever it may be, shall not be preferred within the time and at the place designated, such loss or damage shall be deemed to be waived, and the Steamship, and the owners thereof, shall be discharged therefrom.

In case the Steamship shall be detained at the Quarantine of the Port of Havana, and there discharge the articles named in this Bill of Lading, that all risk and liability to the Steamship, or to the owners thereof, shall cease, and the obligations of the Steamship under this Bill of Lading be deemed to have been fully accomplished, when the articles shall have been delivered from the tackles of the Steamship, and all risk and expense incurred thereafter shall be on account of the aforesaid owner, shipper, or consignee. Weight, contents and value unknown, and not answerable for leakage, rust, heat, breakage, or natural decay of goods, or damage to the packages from said causes, or for damage by rats, or for unavoidable exposure to weather, and that the Steamship and the owners thereof shall not be responsible for gold, silver, precious stones or metals, jewelry, nor treasure of any kind, nor for any package worth over $500, unless Bills of Lading, in which the value of the articles is stated, are signed therefor.

No Bill of Lading is signed for a less sum than $5.25.

In Witness Whereof, the Agent of said Steamship hath signed Three Bills of Lading, all of this tenor and date, one whereof being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Dated at NEW YORK, this 16 day of Oct 188 4

Ward

NEW YORK TO HAVANA.

Agents.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 19 1884
RECEIVED

No. 76. U. S. Consulate General.
Harana, November 10th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Reporting the arrival of General Ramon Fajardoé Yzquierdo, the newly appoint=ed Governor General relieving General Ygnacio Castillo in the command of this Island.

No. 77

U. S. Consulate General

Havana, November 10th 1884.

Hon William Hunter -
Second Assistant Secretary of State -
Washington -
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that General Ramon Fajardo é Izquierdo, appointed to relieve General Castillo, as Governor General of Cuba, arrived here on the 8th instant.

Immediately after taking the oath of office, on the afternoon of the same day, he was felicitated with the solemnities and ceremonials usual upon such occasions.

As representative of the United States at this Capital, I was among those present.

Upon the introduction of the Consuls General to H. E.

we received the assurance of his desire and readiness to maintain the present friendly relations existing between the Colonial authorities, and the representatives of foreign nations in this Island.

In taking formal leave of the outgoing Governor General, General Ygnacio Castillo, I availed myself of the occasion to return my special thanks to him for the attentive, just, and conciliatory spirit with which he has ever met the many questions growing out of the intimate commercial relations of the United States with this Island, that during my present incumbency I have had occasion to present to his consideration.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 19 1884
RECEIVED.

St Clair

No. 78

U.S. Consulate General

Havana, November 12th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Transmitting slips and trans=
=lations of valedictory and salut=
=atory addresses, to the inhabitants
of Cuba, upon the transfer of
the General Government of same,
by General Castillo to General
Fajardo.

Two inclosures.

78

No. 77 U.S. Consulate General

Havana, November 12th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.

Acting Secretary of State.

Washington.

D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch
No. 76 of 10th instant, informing
the Department of the transfer
of the General Government of the
Island by General Castillo to
General Fajardo, I now have
the honor to annex slips and 1./2.
translations of the valedictory
and salutatory addresses, —
issued on the occasion, which
are interesting for their explicit
confirmation of the forecast,

so often made in my communications to the Department of the economic depletion which this Island, in view of the erroneous system of Political Economy so long practised here, would inevitably reach.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosures:

1/2.— Addresses of Generals Castillo and Fajardo to the inhabitants of Cuba. Havana, Nov^r 8^th 1884.

Inclosure No. 1 -
With Dispatch No. 77 -
Havana, November 12th 1884.-

From 'El Triunfo' of Havana,
November 10th 1884.

EL TRIUNFO.

Director: D. Ricardo del Monte.

HABANA, 10 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 1884.

ALOCUCIONES.

La *Gaceta* oficial ha publicado las siguientes:

GOBIERNO GENERAL DE LA ISLA DE CUBA.

Habitantes de la Isla de Cuba:

Al hacer entrega del mando superior de estas provincias al Excmo. Sr. Teniente General D. Ramon Fajardo é Izquierdo, faltaria á un deber de justicia si, antes de separarme de vosotros, no consignara pública y solemnemente el alto aprecio que me mereceis y la profunda gratitud que os debo por el espontáneo y decidido concurso con que habeis coadyuvado á mis propósitos en la reconstruccion del pais, así como en la conservacion de la paz y el órden público.

Desgraciadamente [illegible] en el [illegible] de tiempo que [illegible] nuestros [illegible] la suerte [illegible] nuestra [illegible] con esta hermosa y [illegible] Antilla, vuestros generosos esfuerzos y los mios han hallado obstáculos invencibles; y multitud de concausas, entre ellas, la de años aciagos para la produccion, y una competencia universal en la venta de los frutos, han traido á Cuba al periodo de postracion en que hoy se encuentra, compartiendo forzosa é inevitablemente con el Estado sus fatales consecuencias la agricultura, el comercio, la industria y, en general, todas las clases sociales.

Abrigo, sin embargo, la confianza de que una saludable reaccion sucederá á la crísis actual; siendo de ello poderosa garantía los constantes esfuerzos del Gobierno de S. M. que secundarán eficazmente mi ilustrado y digno sucesor, vuestra laboriosidad y la exuberancia de este privilegiado suelo.

Así lo deseo, asegurándoos que servirá de grata compensacion á mis desvelos por mejorar las condiciones del pais, el saber en dia no lejano que se han realizado por completo mis fundadas esperanzas.

Habana, 8 de Noviembre de 1884.

Ignacio Ma. del Castillo.

Translation.

Translation:

Valedictory.

General Government of the Island of Cuba.

Inhabitants of the Island of Cuba:

On delivering the superior command of these provinces to His Excellency, Lieutenant General Don Ramon Fajardo é Izquierdo, I would be wanting in a duty of justice if, before separating from you, I were not to express public and solemnly the high estim= =ation which I have formed of you, and the profound gratitude that I owe you for the spontaneous and decided aid with which you have helped me in my designs for the reconstruction of the country, as also in the preservation of peace and public order.

Unhappily -, in the short space of time that I have remained among you, fortune has shown itself implacable with this beautiful and

fertile Island; your generous efforts and mine have met with invincible obstacles, and a multitude of joint causes, among them, that of unfortunate years for production, and a universal competition in the sale of sugars (frutos) have brought over Cuba the period of prostration in which it now finds itself; agriculture, commerce, industry and, in general, all the social classes, necessarily and unavoidably sharing with the Government, its fatal consequences.

I entertain, notwithstanding, the confidence that a salutary re-action will follow the present crisis; to be brought about by the constant efforts of His Majesty's Government, to efficiently aid my illustrious and worthy successor, together with your own labours, and the fruitfulness of this privileged land.

These are my wishes, assuring you that it will serve as a grateful compensation for my cares and watchings towards the improvement

improvement of the condition
of the country, should I hear
some day, not far off, that
my sincere hopes have been
realized.

Havana, 8th November 1884.

Ignacio Mª del Castillo.

Inclosure No. 2. -
With Dispatch No. 77. -
Havana, November 12th 1884.

From the "Triunfo" of Havana
of November 10th 1884.

Habitantes de la Isla de Cuba:

Investido por el Gobierno de S. M. del cargo de Gobernador General de estas provincias y deseoso de corresponder á tan señalada honra, interpretando fielmente sus designios, me propongo consagrar por entero mi voluntad y mis esfuerzos todos al fomento de vuestros intereses morales y materiales á la sombra de una paz duradera que consolide estrechos lazos de union y de concordia.

No desconozco la angustiosa situacion en que el pais se encuentra, originada por diversos males, exteriores algunos, y que por funesta coincidencia han influido ó influyen poderosamente en agravarla. Sé tambien que no es fácil empresa la de reconstruir, donde existen numerosas causas de decaimiento, siquiera sean pasajeras; mas para conseguirlo, cuento con vuestro inteligente y leal concurso, seguro de que con él no serán estériles las importantes medidas que acaba de dictar el Gobierno y las que con el mismo objeto dictare en lo sucesivo.

Yo, por mi parte, os ofrezco solemnemente la más decidida proteccion en vuestras necesidades; extricta justicia é inviolable respeto á la Ley, y espero que, auxiliado por vosotros, como lo ha sido mi dignísimo antecesor, el ilustre é invicto General Castillo, muy pronto renacerá para Cuba la dicha y prosperidad á que la hacen tan justamente acreedora la natural riqueza de su suelo, y la sensatez y cordura de sus habitantes.

Habana, 8 de Noviembre de 1884.

Vuestro Gobernador General,

Ramon Fajardo é Izquierdo.

Translation!

Translation:

Salutatory

Inhabitants of the Island of Cuba.

Invested by the Govt. of His Majesty, with the charge of Governor General of these provinces, and desirous of corresponding to so signal an honor in the interpretation of its designs; I propose to devote my whole will and efforts to the promotion of your moral and material interests under the protection of an enduring peace that may consolidate close ties of union and concord.

I do not ignore the painful situation of the Country, originated by divers evils, exterior some, and others by a lamentable coincidence,

have influenced most power=
=fully in aggravating it. I
also know that it is not an
easy task to reconstruct where
numerous causes of decay exist,
even if they were but transient;
but counting upon your
intelligent and loyal co-oper=
=ation, I am sure with them,
that the important measures
just dictated by the Government,
and others that with the same
object it will dictate, will not
be fruitless.

I, for my part,
solemnly offer you the most
decided protection in whatever
you may require it; strict
justice and an inviolable
respect for the Law, and
I trust, that aided by you,
as has been my most worthy
predecessor, the illustrious
and valient General Castillo,
the happiness and prosperity

of

of Cuba will soon take a new birth, to which she is entitled by the natural richness of her soil, and the good sense and wisdom of her inhabit=
=ants.

Habana, 8th. November 1884

Ramon Fajardo é Izquierdo.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 19 1884
RECEIVED

No. 79. — U. S. Consulate General

Havana, Nov. 19th, 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Acknowledging the receipt

of instruction No. 19 of Nov-

-ember 1st, instant.

No. 78.— U.S. Consulate General

Havana, November 12th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.

Acting Secretary of State

Washington

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction No. 19, of 1st instant accompanying a duplicate of the Department's No. 9, dated October 8th 184-, with inclosures, the original of which had already been received and acknowledged by me on the 23d of October ultimo

I am, Sir,

very

very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Havana.

No. 1 by hughes in-
formed by telegraph
Nov. 15/84.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
NOV 15 1884
RECEIVED.

Telegram, Cipher -

Havana, Nov. 15. 1884.

Hon. John Davis,
State Department.
Washington.

On receiving your telegram last evening, I had just obtained from Governor-General another extension of one month in Ward-Atkins case; later, at the Palace, he informed me that Director General Finance had received telegram from Madrid, ordering indefinite suspension of matter.

Please inform Ward and Atkins foregoing.

Williams.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1884
RECEIVED.

Dft H. Clair

No. 89, U.S. Consulate General
Havana. November 15 1884.

Mr Williams to the
Department of State

Acknowledging receipt of
cypher telegram, and advising
transmission of cypher telegram
in reply.

No. 80,
No. XX. U. S. Consulate General
Havana November 15 1884.

Hon: John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your cypher telegram reading.

" Williams. Consul General.
"
" Havana.
"
" Have seen Spanish Minister
" as to Ward Atkins case. He
" will telegraph Governor General.
" Have telegraphed Foster to
" urge that no seizure or
" attachment be made. Urge
" at your discretion suspension
" attachment proceedings as
" unjust under the circum-
" stances - No lack of fairness
" being attributed to Ward

" and Atkins, they having always
" " sufficient property in Cuba
" " to answer any recovery,
" " and Customs alone at
" " fault, through laches
" " their officers. Keep Dep't
" informed.

(signed) Davis.

To which I have replied,
also in cypher, as follows:—

" Hon: John Davis.
"
" State Department.
"
" Upon receiving your telegram
" of last evening, I had just
" obtained from Governor
" General another extension
" of one month in Ward
" Atkins case. Later, at
" the Palace he informed
" me that Director General
" of Finance had received
" telegram from Madrid
" ordering indefinite sus=
" pension of matter.
" Please inform Ward and

Atkins

"Atkins of the foregoing"

(signed) Williams.

I am, Sir.

Very respectfully

Your obedient Servant

Ramm O. Williams

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 20 1884
RECEIVED.

Dft Hclair

No. 81. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, November 15th 1884.

Ans. Dec. 30/84

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Collection of duties on
286 bags of La Guayra coffee,
from New York, per Amn S.S.
"Saratoga", by the Customs
authorities of Havana, in
contravention of the Commercial
Agreement between the United
States and Spain, of Feby 13th 1884.

No. 84. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, November 15th 1884.

Hon: John Davis,
Acting Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch No. 75 of 7th instant, regarding a shipment, on the 16th October ult^o of 286 bags of La Guayra coffee - from New York to this port, per S.S. "Saratoga", by Messrs Calixto Lopez & C^o of former port, - and consigned to Messrs Segundo Alvarez & C^o of this city, I have now the honor to state that having had an interview - yesterday with the Governor General upon the subject, I find that H.E. forms the same opinion as to the meaning of the terms, "productos y procedencias", as the Department;

that is, that the products of other countries, coming from the United States, in Spanish or American vessels, should, in his private opinion, pay equal duties.

Consequently, within a few days, I shall present the case in an official form for His Excellency's consideration, asking for a governmental declaration; to the effect, that merchandise not the product of the United States; but proceeding therefrom, "procedentes", shall pay equal duties, whether brought to the ports of Cuba in Spanish or American bottoms.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Ramon O Williams

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 25 1884
RECEIVED.

Ex St Clair

No. 81 bis U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, Nov. 18th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Excess of duties assessed on 286 bags of coffee from New York, per Am. steamer "Saratoga," by the Customs authorities of Havana, Island of Cuba.

One inclosure.

No 81. bis U. S. Consulate General.

Havana, November 18th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington.

D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my
dispatches nos 76 & 81 and 80, dated
respectively the 7th and 15th inst:
in relation to the discrimin=
=ating duty charged under the
agreement with Spain of the
13th of February last on —
286 Bags of La Guayra Coffee,
shipped in New York on board
the American steamship
"Saratoga", I now have the

honor to enclose for the inform=
=ation of the Department,
copy of my communication
addressed upon the subject,
under yesterday's date to His
Excellency, the Governor General
of the Island.

If this act on the
part of the Customs authorities
of Havana, is permitted to be
interpreted in the language
of common sense, and modern
commerce; then, the collection
of this discriminating duty
on goods brought here in an
American vessel, constitutes of
itself, a revocation of the
Agreement of the 18th of February
last past between the United

States

States and Spain for the suppress=
=ion of the differential and
retaliatory duties hitherto,
respectively imposed by both
nations on the commerce
between the United States, and
Cuba and Puerto Rico; for
the reason, that the President
of the United States, was only
authorized to sanction it so
long as a "perfect reciprocity"
shall exist. And it cannot
be denied that the imposition
of the discriminating duty in
question is but the very
opposite of the "perfect reciprocity"
upon which Congress based
its authorization.

Neither could Congress

ever have contemplated any arrangement by which foreign vessels were to be favored in American ports at the expense of American vessels.

I explained these views to His Excellency the Governor General in my last conference with him, as reported in my No. 81 of 15th instant. I was glad, too, to see that His Excellency accorded with my views.

It is to be hoped, that the general treaty now being completed by our Minister at Madrid, Mr Foster, and the Spanish Government, will supersede this Agreement

of

of the 13th of February ultimo.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

James O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure No 1.
With Dispatch No 81.
Havana, November 18th 1884.
Copy.

Consulate General of the United States of America.

Habana, Nov.r 17th 1884

To His Excellency,
The Governor General.
of this Island.
&c &c &c

Excellency:

I have the honor to present for Y.E's consideration and decision the following case which has been reported to this Consulate General by Mr Manuel Lopez; now here, and partner of the firm of Messrs Calixto Lopez & Co. of New York City; the facts of which are as follows: viz,

Thode

Those gentlemen,
under the impression that
the Commercial Agreement
entered into between the
United States and Spain,
at Madrid, on the 13th of
February last past, had for
its object, the abolition of
the differential duties on
the part of Spain, and
the counterrailing or retal-
=iatory duties on the part of
the United States, hitherto,
mutually imposed on the
trade between the United
States, Cuba and Puerto Rico,
and conversely between those
Islands and the United
States, did on the 16th of last
month ship in New York
on board the American
steamship "Saratoga" bound
for Havana,

286 Bags of Coffee, the
product of the Republic

of

of Venezuela, which had been carried from the port of La Guayra in Venezuela, to the port of New York, in the United States.

But regardless of the conditions of said Agreement of the 15th February, and on the landing of this coffee in the port of Havana, the Customs authorities here have pretended to collect the import duties thereon according to the 4th column, instead of according to the 3d column of the Tariff ruling in the Island.

In consequence, an excess of import duties, has been assessed on said coffee of ——————

~~#~~ 6 y. 56/100 Spanish Bank Bills, and
" 608.11 " Gold, over and above ~~what~~ what it would have had to pay had it been

brought from New York to Havana in a Spanish vessel

I am, therefore, compelled to remonstrate before Your Excellency, against the action of the Customs authorities in the case, as contrary to the intent and meaning of the said Agreement of the 13th of February last promulgated in the Official Gazette of this City, in its issue of the 23d of April of the present year, and according to which, as Your Excellency will observe on reference thereto, that it is explicitly stated, the object of the agreement was the mutual concession of tariff advantages, between the Islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico, and the United States.

The same decree,

Article

Article 1st. - also declares, that "in virtue of the "authority granted to the "Spanish Government by "article 3rd of the law of the 20th "July 1882, that the duties "of the third column of the "Cuban and Puerto Rico "tariffs shall be applied, "which implies the suppression "of the differential or flag "duties to the products and "merchandise proceeding "from the United States."

The fact of this collection of an excess of import duties in the case cited, constitutes beyond all doubt, the imposition of a discriminating duty against the American flag in Cuban ports, which was suppressed by the Agreement of 13th of February 1884.

It

It is also in contra-
=vention to the law of the
Congress of the United States,
by which the President was
authorized to accept the
Agreement of February 13th
1822, for it is opposed to
the perfect reciprocity upon
which said Congressional
authority is based.

Again, had this
coffee been brought first
from La Guayra to Havana,
and from thence shipped
in a Spanish bottom to the
United States no more
duties would have been
collected there than had
it been shipped in an
American bottom, that is,
the shipping of both nations
would have been placed on
a perfect equality in the ports
of the United States.

Neither is it reasonable

to suppose that the Govern-
=ment of the United States,
would ever had entered into
an arrangement by which
the vessels of foreign nations
should be favored in the
loading of cargo in American
ports over American vessels,
yet such is what is implied
by the interpretation of the
Agreement of the 13th February
ultimo by the Havana Customs
authorities.

Therefore, relying
upon Your Excellency's clear
judgment and good desires
for the promotion of
commercial relations between
the United States and Cuba,
I have to ask, that it be
ordered through Your
Excellency's Superior
Authority, in view of the
foregoing, that no more
duties be collected on the said

286 bags of coffee of Messrs Calixto Lopez & C. of New York, than if they had been brought to Havana in a Spanish vessel.

Trusting in an early reply from Y.E. for transmission to the Honorable the Secretary of State at Washington, I remain, with the assurances of the greatest respect,

Your Excellency's

Obedient Servant

(Signed) Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NOV 28 1884
RECEIVED.

Dft Claim

No 82. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, Nov^br 21st 1884.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Petition of Mr W.B.R. Johnson of Allentown Pennsylvania, to load and ship timber from the Isle of Pines to the United States.

One inclosure.

No. 82. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, Nov.r 21st. 1884.

Hon: John Davis,

Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington.

D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch No. 78, of 4th instant, and in accordance with the Depart=ment's instruction No 18 dated October 24th ultimo, I have now the honor to enclose, herewith, copy of a communication addressed to the Governor General of this Island, on the 18th instant, in reference to the petition of Mr W. B.

R. Johnson, of Allentown Pennsylvania, for permission to load vessels on the South side of the Isle of Pines with timber, and clear them for the United States either from Nuera Gerona in the Isle of Pines or from the nearest port of entry in Cuba.

I will advise the Department in due course of the result of this petition

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure:

1.- Mr Williams to the Governor General - Nov 12 to 18/84.

Inclosure No. 1.

With Dispatch No. 82.

Havana November 21st 1884

Copy:

Consulate General of the United States of America.

Havana, November 18th 1884.

To His Excellency,
The Governor General
of this Island.

&c &c &c

Excellency:

In accordance with instructions from the Department of State, dated the 24th ultimo, at Washington City, I have

now the honor to submit, herein, the terms of a petition of Mr. W. B. R. Johnson, a citizen of the United States, which terms are as follows:

Mr Johnson states, that during the past year, he has leased a tract of timber in the Isle of Pines, about thirty miles long by twelve wide, which he wishes to have cut, and shipped for sale to the United States, therefore, with the view of lessening the expense of transport-ation necessary to enable him to commence the business

business, he respectfully,
asks that the Government
of the Island of Cuba,
of which the Isle of Pines
is a dependency may
grant him permission
to clear the vessels for the
United States, either Spanish
or American, that he may
load on the coast of said
Isle of Pines with timber,
at the port of Nueva Gerona,
in that Island, or at the
nearest port in Cuba;
but with preference for
the former, in view of
the saving of time, thereby
obtainable.

This petition

does not contemplate
making the Isle of Pines
a port of entry but
merely seeks for object,
the habilitation of the port
of Nuevo Gerona; for the
export of timber cut on
that Island.

Doubting not that the
petition will be found a
reasonable one, I beg to
recommend it to the favorable
consideration of Your Excellency.

I have the honor to be,
very respectfully,
Y. E's Obedient Servant
(signed) Ramon O. Williams.
Consul General

Forwarded to Mess. Geo. with letter Dec. 8'84

Ans'd Jan 10 85.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 2 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr. Blair

No. 83. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, Nov. 26th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Transmitting a sealed package containing Bonds of the United States addressed to Messrs Plock & Company of New York City.

Package enclosed.

No. 82 U.S. Consulate General

Havana, November 26th 1884.

Hon: John Davis

Assistant Secretary of State

Washington.

D. C.

Sir:

At the request of Messrs J. M. Borjes & Co, bankers of this place, I beg to accompany a sealed package, containing United States Bonds, addressed to Messrs Block & Company of New York City, which I will thank you to forward through the registered mail.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Package, referred to, inclosed.

Forward

Con

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1884
RECEIVED

No. 84. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, November 26th 1884

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Report in regard to this Consulate General &c., in obedience to the Department's circular dated Washington August 21st 1884.

Two. inclosures.

No. 84. Consulate General of
the United States of America.
Havana, November 26th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

With reference to the
circular of the Department
of August 21st 1884, received
at this Consulate General on
the 18th September last, stating
the intention of the Department
to communicate to Congress
for its information at the
coming session, reports
descriptive of the various
consular posts, as a supple-
=ment to the general report
made at the last session,
and in which I am
instructed to submit brief
remarks in regard; first.

1st

1st ——— to my office;

2nd ——— the character of its duties;

3d ——— principal exports to the United States; and

4th ——— other points of information to assist the Department in its purpose, and of explaining particulars by the American interests of my post; ——— I now beg respectfully to submit the following remarks:

Regarding the importance of this office, nothing can be added by me, to the remarks submitted in the report of the Honorable, the Secretary of State, in relation to the Consular service, of the 20th of March last.

Before The commercial duties devolving upon ~~its~~ this incumbent are

of this Office
are not only duly appreciated
and qualified as important
and onerous, but due weight
is given to the 'semi-diplomatic
'functions of importance &
'requiring tact, discretion,
'and political ability", which
he is constantly called upon
to perform; functions which
on account of the destruction of
the Louisiana sugar crop by
the recent war in the United
States, the increased consump-
-tion and demand of late
years for that article in the
United States, the great
development of the beetroot
sugar industry in Europe,
and many other causes
making Cuba de facto a
commercial dependency of
the United States, while at
the same time de jure a
political possession of Spain;
the recent insurrection
in

in this Island, the peculiar system of Spain's colonial government, and the many interests commercial, personal, and national affected thereby — have caused a steady increase in the importance of this office, especially during the past fifteen years. Among the semi-diplomatic functions, the Consul General is the medium of communication between the Superior Authorities of the Island, and the other Consular Officers of the United States resident at the out-ports, and has to meet and treat of questions regarding fines and impositions upon vessels at their ports; customs exactions upon property belonging to Americans; complaints of naturalized citizens of —

acts —

subaltern
acts committed by officers
of the Government; and other
duties well known to the
Department, and therefore
not necessary to dilate upon
them.

I may, however, be
permitted to be more
explicit regarding the
consular and commercial
duties, and as a means of
comparison with past years,
give the following data
regarding exports of principal
articles of produce at Havana
to the United States for the
year 1883; as reported by
the 'Havana Weekly Report,'
and the number of American
vessels arrived, and number
of invoices authenticated
at this Consulate General
during the past twelve years,
showing a steady increase

in

in the number of invoices during the past ten years.

The Principal exports to the United States from Havana, for 1883. well

---

Sugar:=	754,579-	Hhds:
"	2,386-	Boxes:
"	175,611-	Bags.
Molasses=	9,461	Hhds:
Honey	3,516	Tierces.
Cigars	44,718.	Mille.
Tobacco	7,572,403.	pounds.

I regret that I cannot give the declared invoice value of the foregoing, as I do not find that the invoices have been fully entered in the Invoice Book, and digest made for that period.

1884.

1884 to date	440	vessels arrived	4926 Invoices
1883.	520.	" "	4943. "
1882.	556.	" "	4406. "
1881.	563.	" "	3630. "
1880.	646	" "	3464. "
1879.	854	" "	3379. "
1878.	738.	" "	3379. "
1877.	704.	" "	3327. "
1876.	772.	" "	3299. "
1875	885.	" "	3488. "
1874.	904.	" "	4628. "
1873.	899.	" "	4208. "
1872.	867.	" "	4608. "

But even the fore=
going should not be taken as
a fair criterion of the increased
clerical duties of the office,
for the clearance of a vessel,
which formerly could be
effected with Consular form
N°14, (the certificate of return
to master of ship's papers.) and
a letter to the Captain of the
Port, advising the vessel's

clearance

clearance at the Custom House, in order to obtain the "Morro", or guard ship pass, has for several years back, required the addition of numbered receipts of the fees, made in triplicate, and since August 1879, in most cases, the further issue of a bill of health, and sanitary inspection. (Vide Dispatch N° 44 of September 14th 1884.)

The recent circular of the Department of July 30th 1884, does not diminish this labor, for although by Act of June 26/84, to which it refers, all official consular fees for American vessels and seamen, are abolished, yet 'itemized statements of 'official services rendered' are required to be made out, to be signed by the

master

master, and delivered to him.

These "statements" the master is under penalty to deliver to the Collector of the District, in which the vessel first arrives on her return to the United States, to be used afterwards at the Treasury, in the adjustment of Consular accounts, but to provide against his possible failure to do so, and from abundant caution as recommended in Sec: XIII of said circular, it is customary at this office to make out such "statements" in triplicate, delivering one to the master, one to the vessel's agents or consignees and keeping one to be forwarded to the Fifth Auditor of the Treasury with the quarterly consular accounts.

Formerly invoices

were

were exclusively authenticated in triplicate, but since the custom of shipping merchandise for transportation without appraisement from ports of entry to interior places of the United States, as provided by the Act of June 10th 1880, over three quarters of the invoices presented at this Consulate for authentication are made in quadruplicate. This may appear a trifling detail but when it is taken into consideration, that upon at least two days of every week an average number of fifty invoices are presented, and that nearly forty of these are made out in quadruplicate, it will readily be perceived how considerable is the mere manual labor of preparing them for my

examination

examination and signature, which is done by the clerical force of the office, under the supervision of the Consular Clerk. Each invoice has to be numbered with its corresponding consecutive number affixed in three places on each sheet, to wit: on the face of the invoice, in the body of the Consular certificate, and in the endorse=ment for the Collector, and although accuracy and considerable relief and saving of time is effected by the use of a numbering machine, yet, for a triplicate invoice, the number has to be repeated nine times, and for a quadru=plicate, twelve times. Each sheet has also to be stamped or sealed, and I then affix my signature to each.

The duplicate sheet of a triplicate

triplicate invoice, or the duplicate and triplicate sheets of a quadruplicate invoice are then ready for delivery to the shipper or his clerk. The copies intended for the various Collectors, often at ten and twelve different places, require to be folded, a descriptive list according to forms 142 and 143 made of them for each Collector, every list requiring another signature, and the invoices put up in envelopes properly addressed, sealed and mailed. All of these various operations for the dispatch of invoices have to be performed generally on the day of the steamers sailing, within a few hours, and oftentimes even a few minutes before the closing

of

of the mail. Thus it will readily be perceived by the Department, that on such days the Consul General's time is principally taken up in the signing of invoices, leaving to his clerks the labor of preparing them, and that this duty encroaches considerably upon his other and often more important duty of preparing dispatches and reports to the Department upon Consular matters, or subjects of national interest. Very little time can be spared for the close scrutiny and examination of invoices, but as the merchandise shipped is principally such as pays specific duties in the United States, the number of shippers comparatively few and regular, and well known, such

such examination is in most cases but a cursory and superficial one.

Another duty devolving upon the Consulate, not formerly exercised, but an outcome of the late insurrection, is the requirement of registering every American citizen who arrives in the Island to stay over a month and of procuring for him a cedula or police pass from the Civil Government which requires also to be annually renewed, or in case of leaving the Island, to be endorsed to procure a passport visa.

Added to these, are the customary Consular duties of hearing complaints of masters against seamen or consignees; of seamen,

against

against masters or vessels; of citizens and travellers against the exactions of the Laws and customs of the country; of attending to a large miscellaneous correspondence with persons in the United States, and furnishing information on almost every subject under the sun; of supervising the correspondence of the other Consular Officers, on the Island, forwarded through this Consulate; of keeping a close observation upon the affairs of the country and current events, in order to report the same to the Department, copying ~~for~~ inclosures, and making translations of the leading articles of the Cuban press, representative of public opinion, for the use of the Department.

Department, and a thousand
and one other demands
and calls upon his time,
attention, and, I must
add, frequent upon his
private purse, — all these
combined make the position
of the Consul-General of the
United States at this port
by no means a sinecure.

An examination
of the files of this office
and the correspondence
with the Department
of my predecessors, for a
score of years back, show
that nearly all have
written in the same sense
upon the subject of the
compensation of the office,
its duties, the inadequate
clerical force allowed it
and the danger, discomforts
and expense of a residence
in this country for any

length.

length of time. .

I accompany briefed copies of several communic= =ations on this subject, and will state that for the past 25 years, no Consul General has been able to support his family here on the salary and emoluments accruing from this office. 1/2

Clerk hire expense

Until 1865, the expense of providing suitable and efficient clerical service, was a charge upon the Consul General, and I learn it was also customary at that time for him to allow the Vice Consul, who

then

then performed the duties of Chief Clerk, or such as are now performed by the Consular Clerk, the sum of $2000.—, or one third of his own salary. Other clerical service was provided for by the small allowance made for a time to the Consulate by the Navy Department of about $500. per annum, by an allowance from the Post Office Department, which ceased in 1877, of $800. per annum, and by the receipts from unofficial fees.

In 1865, some relief, under this head, was for the first time afforded to the Consul General by the appointment of a Consular Clerk, at the salary of $1000., but even this salary being recognized as

an

an inadequate compensation for the duties and position, it was increased by the payment of $400.- annually, by the Consul General, and that sum has been regularly allowed to the Consular Clerks in addition to the salary paid by the Government, by my predecessors, Consuls General Minor, Plumb, Biddle, Torbert, and Hall.

Besides this allowance, they were frequently paid sums for extra and ~~ex~~ exceptional services, such as the execution of a commission, preparation of copies, over time &c.

At this point I desire to state that in consideration of the long and experienced services of Mr Joseph A. Springer, the Consular Clerk, he having been connected with this

Consulate

Consulate almost uninter-
-ruptedly since 1864, I
have entrusted to him the
execution of the notarial
and clerical business of the
office, and allow him one half
of the amount of fees received
for such services, in lieu of
the $400. extra compensation
formerly paid him.

In 1867, the amount paid
by the Consul for extra clerk
hire, and extra office rent
over the sum allowed, was
over $3200. per annum,
besides which $1000. was
allowed for a Consular Clerk.

In 1868, the annual
expense of extra clerk hire
and rent, to be borne by the
Consul General alone, was
at the rate, for a time, of over
$4500. per annum, but
during this year as the
Consulate of Mexico, and

<u>also</u>

also of Norway, were in tempo=
=rary charge of the United States
Consul General, a larger clerical
force was necessary.

In 1869; this expense to the
Consul General was at the rate
of about $3200. per annum.

In 1870, At the rate of about
$2500.- This decrease was due
to having changed the location
of the office and secured rooms
at a less rent, and also reduced
the clerical force.

In 1871, Consul General
Torbert in his dispatch N°10,
writing on this subject —
recommended the appointment
of another Consular Clerk,
and a further allowance of
$3000. per annum, to be
expended for extra clerk hire,
and expenses of the Consulate
which, if allowed, would have
made the expense to the
Government of $5200.-
for

for Clerks.

In 1872. The appointment of another Consular Clerk assigned to duty at Havana, further relieved the strain upon the Consul General, and the amount then paid, was at about $1500.- per annum.

In 1874, by instruction of the Department No. 77, Oct. 28th/74, according to its Circular No. 61, the sum of $2000. was allowed to the Havana Consulate by Act of June 11th/74, for extra Clerk hire: Mr. Hall, then Consul General, reported having employed an extra clerk at the rate of $1500. - and purposed to allow the Consular Clerks each $500. in addition to what they received, which he considered insufficient for their support, and

requested

requested that the allow=
=ance for extra clerk-hire be
made $2500. This
plan, however, was not
approved by the Depart=
=ment, which considered that
the Consular Clerks had
salarys already fixed by law.
The Department, however
approved the payment of
the salary of $1,500. and
$500 additional to be
expended for the same object
In August 1877, the sum
of $800.— per annum which
had been allowed the Consulate
by the Post Office Department
for services in connection
with the receipt and dispatch.
of mails, was discontinued,
which further decreased.
the means at the disposal
of the Consul General, for
the payment of extra clerical
assistance.

In

In November 1880, Consular Clerk Raphel, was transferred to Bordeaux, and since that time there has been but one regular Consular Clerk stationed here, Mr. Joseph A. Springer, Mr Hay, who came to replace Mr Raphel, remaining but a few weeks.

It will thus be seen from the foregoing statement that the salaries of two Consular Clerks, and the allowance for Clerkhire from 1874, until quite recently was an expense to the Government of:

Salaries of two Consular Clerks who had each served 5 years - ——— $2400.-

Allowance for extra Clerkhire ——— " 2,000.-

Total $ 4400.-

The Consul General continued to

to pay an addition of $400.- per annum each, to the salary of the Consular Clerks, out of his own income.

The actual expense at present of the clerical force of this office is as follows:

Salary of Consular Clerk = $1200.-
Allowance for extra clerk hire. 1600.-
Total $2,800.

The expenditure of the $1600.- allowed by the Govern=ment, by Act of July 7th 1884, is as follows:

To. Louis V. Schmidt, formerly employed @ $1500 = $1000.-
" A.R. Betancourt, 18yrs " 500.-
" Eloy Martinez 16 " " 50.
" Martin Glynn 16 " " 50.-
$1600.-

To each of the last named, who are two young men who have entered the office as "meritorio" or apprentice clerks I pay a further compensation

of

for two clerks,
of $150: each per annum,
from my own income.

I respectfully submit,
that I do not think that
it could have been intended
by the Government, that the
Consul Generals own salary
should be encroached upon
by the payment of actual
and necessary clerk hire
for the Consulate, and beg
that the fact may be taken
into consideration that the
present clerical expense
is $1,600 less than the
amount allowed for a
number of years past for
that purpose to this
Consulate General; that the
necessity of such services
has not decreased, but
on the contrary increased;
and therefore, I do not
think the sum of $3.000
to be too large an amount

to

to pay to experienced and
trustworthy American Clerks,
in a country where the
danger and disadvantages
of residence, in climate
and expense, are so well
known to the Department.

In this connection,
I would respectfully call
attention to the fact not
generally known, and with
which only the Department
is well acquainted, of the
amount of labor, mental
and physical, that has
been performed in this
office during the past ten
years with the view of
bringing about a better
understanding between
Spain and the United States,
with respect to their mutual
commercial interests, and the
fruition of which is to be found in
the recent gratifying
treaty

treaty of commerce signed at Madrid, to which this office has undoubtedly contributed, as well as to other similar and important treaties, that will, as a natural sequence, be negotiated. All of this labor has been performed outside of the regular duties of the Consul General, and has required an immense amount of mental effort, and efficient clerical assistance, —— the latter which has been executed principally by Mr Louis V. Schmidt, is as yet, uncompensated by the Government.

I refrain from making any recommendation regarding the amount of the compensation that should be fixed as the salary of the Consul General.

I would, however, recommend such allowance

for

for clerkshire, as may be found necessary, which I think can be covered by the sum of — $3000.— ; this would enable me to reinstate Mr. Louis V. Schmidt to the salary he had in 1874 of $1500. — by no means a large one in this expensive place, and to pay the junior clerks a reasonable compensation. Enclosed

I have the honor to be, Sir
Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

omit

Inclosure No. 1.
With Dispatch No 84 bis
Havana, November 26th 1884.
Copy.

Consul General A. K. Blythe,
in 1858, in his last dispatch
to the Department says:

"in conclusion, I beg to say
"now that no selfish motive
"can be imputed, (he having
"resigned) the compensation
"for this office is mean,
contemptible and unworthy
of our Government. It is
known to you, Sir, that it is
no sinecure; that it is full
of labor, most of which is of
the most responsible character,
and the remainder the
most unpleasant drudgery.
" After paying the expenses
" of the office, the balance of
" the salary is insufficient to
procure food, and the

social

social status that rightfully belongs to the representative of the Government at this place cannot be maintained, unless one is prepared to do, what many are unable, and more unwilling to do, that is, sacrifice not only his constant labor but also private means for his country &c. &c. "

"

Inclosure N°2 -
With Dispatch N°84 bis
Havana, November 26th 1884.

Consul General.

Chas G. Helm - under date of November 29th 1858, and quoting the language of his predecessor, called the attention of the Department "to the importance of the "duties of the Consul General, "and the fact, that by the peculiar circumstances of the relations of Cuba to Spain, his position was rather that of Chargé d'Affaires, and the duties assimilating themselves to those of that officer greater than are performed by most of our resident Ministers abroad.

Also, the excessive cost of living and house rent.

As to the business of the

office

office he considered, that
even with two experienced
clerks, in addition to the
Vice Consul, the clerical force
was inadequate, and
estimated the amount for
expenses paid by the Consul
General himself over that
allowed by the Government
at $4,000.- and recommended
that the salary be increased
to $7,500.— equal to that
paid at London and
Liverpool and $2500.-
be allowed for a Vice Consul.

In a later dispatch
March, 1859. Mr Helm
informed the Department
that the cost of living so
far exceeded his Salary
that he could not afford
to keep his family by him,
and about a month later,
announcing his departure
on leave; he trusts that

the

the salary may be augmented to cover the actual necessary expenses of the incumbent

Again in May 1860, Mr Helm recurs to the subject, and after detailing the various, multifarious, important and complex duties imposed upon the Consul General by the exigencies of his position; the inability to compete socially with his colleagues, and other officials of rank, the demand upon his time, the insufficiency of a clerical force to keep up the records of the Consulate as required by law; &c. suggests a reorganization of the office, a division of its labor, in such a manner that the principal commercial part thereof shall be performed by a subordinate

Officer

officer at a salary of $2,500.;
an allowance of $2,500.—
for clerk hire, and a further
allowance of $2500 for a
consular residence.

File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 2 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 86. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, Nov. 27th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of

State

Acknowledging receipt

of instruction.

No. 86 U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, Nov.r 27th 1884.

Hon: John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instructions No.s 20 and 21, of 15th and 19th instant, the contents of which have my attention.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 2 1884
RECEIVED.

Letter (Berraza) sent in 3 enclosures to Berraza
Statement - Rec'd after
W.T. 2/5 - sent to Berraza
to see 4 enclosures to Stat. - X -
Letter was based on statement by Peterson
1884.

See also Berraza's letter of 24 Nov 84 -

No 87. — U.S. Consulate General

Havana, Nov 27th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Reporting the arrest and imprisonment of Mr Cirilo Pouble, a naturalized citizen of the United States, by the Police of Havana.

No. 87. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, Nov'r 27th 1884.

Hon: John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have to inform you that on the arrival, here, the 24th instant of the American steamer "Hutchinson" from New Orleans via Key West, a passenger and naturalized citizen of the United States of Cuban birth, named Cirilo Pouble, from the latter port, was arrested on landing by the Police authorities of this City.

The first information of the arrest was brought to me by a young sister of Pouble, who at the same time asked for the intervention

of this Consulate General in favor of her brother.

I instructed the Consular Clerk to go at once to the Police Head Quarters, to enquire, and bring me a report of the facts.

It was ascertained, that Pouble had, in effect, come with a United States Passport, issued last month by the Department of State, and which he had had visaed by the Spanish Consul at Key West prior to his departure for Havana.

The Chief of the Police, further, added, that he was just then about to initiate the first proceedings, (Sumario) which as soon as finished, would be transferred to His Excellency, the Governor General of the Island.

On the following day,

I

I called upon His Excellency, who in reply to my enquiry, informed me that Pouble had been arrested on the charge of conspiring in divers ways against the Government of Spain, in the Island, and particularly as Secretary of the Cuban Nihilistic Society, whose object was to blow up buildings by the use of dynamite, and to destroy property, in general, by all the means known to that society. — Nevertheless, he had ordered that the trial of Pouble be submitted to the Civil Court of the Cathedral District, in which the arrest had been made. I expressed to His Excellency my satis= =faction upon the adoption of this method of trial for the friends of Pouble had expressed

the fear that he might be turned over to a Court-Martial for trial. I then withdrew from the conference.

Yesterday afternoon, in virtue of the permit I had asked for and obtained from the Governor General, I went in company with the Consular Clerk, to the Principe Castle, to see the prisoner, and to hear what he had to say in regard to his arrest. The Governor of the castle, ordered Pouble to be brought before me, and, in every way, aided me, by his orders, in carrying out the purpose of my visit.

At my request Pouble named two lawyers, either of whom he would select for his defense.

He shew me a certificate

of naturalization issued by the Superior Court of the City of New York on the 13th of October last.

In reply to my questions, he said that he had been engaged in the late insurrection; but like all the others engaged therein, he had been embraced in the surrender of the Zanjon in February 1878.

That, he had been the Secretary of the Cuban Revolutionary Society, but had some time ago renounced the charge; that he was now engaged in the cigar trade, and had a store open at 101 E. 14th street - New York: that his only object in coming to Havana, was to settle up the estate of his

201

See Berard's letter of Nov. 29.

deceased parents: to purchase leaf tobacco with the proceeds for the delivery of which he had already contracted; and to accompany to New York his young sister, already mentioned. At this point I, and the Consular Clerk, left the Castle

I shall continue to give this case particular attention, and will keep the Department informed of the proceedings.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Passport No 13155 — Oct. 29, 1884
issued to Cirilo Pouble

Superior Court City of
New York
Oct. 13, 1884

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 5 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 88. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, November 28th 1884.

See Mr Bergne's letter 1/24/85

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Arrest and imprisonment of Mr Cirilo Pouble, a naturalized citizen of the United States, by the police of Havana.

Transmitting a slip and translation, in reference to same, from the "Voz de Cuba" of Havana November 25th/84.

One inclosure.

No. 88. U. S. Consulate General.
Havana, November 28th, 1884.

Hon: John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington -
D. C.

Sir:

Owing to the pressure of business at this office, it was impossible to forward the enclosed slip, and translation of an article, published in the "Vox de Cuba" of this place the 25th instant, in relation to the arrest and imprisonment of Mr Cirilo Pouble, a naturalized citizen of the United States, by the police of this City, which should have accompanied my No. 84 of yesterday's date.

1.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Lamm C. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure Nº 1.
With Dispatch Nº .
Havana, November th 1884.

From the "Voz de Cuba" of Havana
November 25th 1884.

Captura.

El famoso D. Cirilo Pouble que ha llegado esta mañana á esta capital en el vapor *Hutchinson*, de Cayo Hueso, ha sido inmediatamente detenido por la policía.

Para que nuestros lectores comprendan toda la importancia de esta captura haremos una ligera reseña biográfica del tal Pouble.

A raíz de la paz del Zanjón fué preso por conspirar contra el Gobierno de España, pero se hizo ó lo hicieron pasar por imbécil ó loco, y se le puso en libertad; beneficio que aprovechó para pasar á Cayo Hueso en donde siguió conspirando descaradamente. De este punto se trasladó á México, y allí se puso en connivencia con Bonachea, el cual fué á Cayo Hueso recomendado á Figueredo y Poyo para levantar fondos con que adquirir pertrechos de guerra para encender de nuevo la apagada guerra.

Todos saben el fracaso de la expedición del *jefe de la vanguardia*, fracaso debido á las activas y patrióticas gestiones de nuestro cónsul señor Bermudez (q. e. p. d.) Con objeto de dar autoridad á la *colecta* salió Pouble de México para Nueva York, en donde celebró un *meeting* de insurrectos, declarándose allí de nuevo la guerra á España y nombrándose á Pouble Secretario de la Junta que se formó y Presidente de Club revolucionario.

Habiendo fracasado tambien la expedición Bonachea, se presentaron en Cayo Hueso Agüero, García y Mato; y despues de algunas reuniones *patrióticas*, se marcharon á Nueva York para ponerse á las órdenes de la Junta ó Comité ejecutivo, el cual lo componen Arnao, Morua Delgado y Pouble. Este comité dió poderes á Agüero para levantar fondos en Cayo Hueso y Nueva Orleans; y nadie ignora el resultado de la colecta, ni la inversion dada al dinero recaudado, reducida á formar la partida de bandoleros que ha cometido en los campos de Cuba todo linaje de fechorías.

El bueno de Pouble viene confiado en que nada podrá hacerse contra él por venir provisto de un pasaporte de los Estados Unidos. ¡Inocente! ¡Como si esa clase de documentos pudiera impedir el castigo de los criminales! Recuerde que tambien Agüero se hizo ciudadano americano, lo cual no le impedirá ser fusilado cuando se le eche mano, si es que en esta tierra ha de hacerse alguna vez justicia en esta clase de delincuentes.

La captura de Pouble es un suceso de importancia: y por ella felicitamos á la policía de la Habana.

[quien en paz descanze!
may he rest in peace!

Translation

Translation:

Capture.—

The famous Dr. Cirilo Poible, who arrived at this capital this morning by the steamer "Hutchinson" from Key West, has been immedi=-ately arrested by the police.

In order that our readers may understand the importance of this capture we will make a brief biographical sketch of said Pouble.

Immediately after the "Zanjon" peace he was arrested for conspiring against the Government of Spain, but he then passed, or was made to pass as insane, and was released; a favor of which he availed by going to Key West where

he continued conspiring barefacedly.

From the latter place he went to Mexico where he was in connivance with Bonachea, the latter going to Key West, recomended to Figueredo and Poyo, to raise means for the purchase of arms and ammunition to rekindle the extinguished war.

Every one is aware of the calamitous exit of the expedition entrusted to the chief of the vanguard, the result of the active and patriotic efforts of our late Consul, at Key West, Mr. Bermudez. With the object of giving authorization to the collection of funds, Pouble left Mexico for New York, where he held a meeting composed of insurgents

at

at which war was again declared against Spain, and Poublo appointed Secretary of the "Junta", then organized, as also President of the revolutionary Club.

Upon the like failure of the Bonachea expedition, Agüero, Garcia, and Mato went to Key West, and after some patriotic meetings went to New York to place themselves at the command of the "Junta" or executive Committee, composed of Arnao, Morua Delgado, and Poublo. This committee conferred power upon Agüero to raise funds in Key West and New Orleans, and no one ignores the result of their collection, nor the use made of the money collected, which resulted

in

in the formation of a band
of highwaymen that after-
-wards committed all manner
of depredations on the fields
of Cuba.

The simpleton Pouble,
comes to this country under
the impression that no
harm can be done him,
because he is provided with
a United States passport.
Innocent man! — As if
such a document could
suffice to prevent the
punishment of criminals!

Let him remember that
Agüero also became an
american citizen, which will
not prevent his being shot
as soon as he is had, that is,
if justice is for once to be
meted out in this land
to like offenders.

The capture of
Pouble is an important
event

event: and we congratulate the police of Havana for it.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 16 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 89. U.S. Consulate General.
Harana, Dec. 10th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State

Receipt of circular instruct
=ion of November 26th. 1884.

No. 89. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Dec.r 10th 1884.

Hon: John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's circular instruction of November 26th ultimo, the contents of which have my careful attention.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
Lamm O. Williams
Consul General.

Renewal

Dr Adair

Con 1

Consulate General of the United States.

Havana, 13 Dec 1884

Hon, John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington City, D.C.

My dear Mr. Davis,

For recreation,
I should like to go to the Country
to spend the Christmas Holidays at
the plantation of my friend Mr.
Miguel Aldama. This I can
do, provided the Department will
permit me to depute Mr. Joseph
A Springer, the Consular Clerk, for
the signing of the shipping documents
of the Newyork steamer of Saturday,
the 27th. inst.

Therefore, I beg to
ask, informally, your permission

Yes - Do so M

to this end; further, if granted,
that you have the goodness to
cable me accordingly, as early
as practicable after the receipt
of these lines.

I am, dear Sir,
Yours very respectfully,
Ramon O. Williams

Consul

Telegram sent Dec 19-84.

Received at Consular Desk Jan 21/85.

Send

Ordered sent Dec. 31, 84

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 19 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 90. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, December 13th, 1884.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Requisition for a map of the United States.

No. 90. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, Dec. 13th 1884.

Hon: John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State -
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

This office being unprov-
-ided with a reliable map of the
United States, and the want
thereof being almost daily
felt; I would respectfully
request the Department to
furnish one of medium size, and
of the latest edition.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Copy to Senator Miller
Chn Com. For Rels
Say that confusion towards us has not been expected

Ask Williams to see Porter & see what can be done in the matter

Rec'd Dec 29/84

Answered Dec 30/84

Dec 26 1884

Miller

Dear Edmunds

Madrid, Dec. 20, 1884.

Hon. John Davis,
State Dept. Washington.

Meeting was held this afternoon, Gov't Palace, of planters, Governor General presiding, to remove apprehension and opposition to the treaty by the refiners in the United States. They agreed to and already have petitioned Madrid by cable to lower the Dutch Standard free sugar in the treaty from number sixteen to number thirteen, as they really have scarcely any lands making sugar higher than number thirteen. Public interest and opinion here would be queasy if the United States

would

would exact free flour.
The economical and financial condition affairs Cuba are so precarious that Spain must yield to any reasonable requirement to save the treaty. In order to make present crop petroleum refining interests have petitioned Madrid to change duties to gallate[?] standard, otherwise considerable industrial interests would suffer.

Williams
Consul-General.

Refer to Mr. Fisher
Did so Dec 29/84

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 26 1884
RECEIVED.

St Clair

No. 91. U. S. Consulate General

Havana, Dec. 20th 1884

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Requisition for empty pouches.

No. 91. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, Dec.r 20th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State

Washington.

D. C

Sir:

I have respectfully to request, that every fifteen days, from three to four small empty pouches be sent to this office, for the purpose of forwarding the weekly correspondence address=ed to the Department.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 30 1884
RECEIVED.

Copy to Commun. Bow.
For. Rel. Senate
Jan. 22. 85

D. H. Clai

No. 92. U. S. Consulate General.
Havana Dec 22 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Advising the transmission
of a telegram in cypher.

No 92. U. S. Consulate General
Havana Decr 22/1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to advise the transmission on the 20th instant, of a telegram in cypher, redding as follows:

" Hon John Davis.
" State Department
" Washington.
" A meeting was held this
" afternoon, Government
" Palace, of planters, Governor
" General presiding. To
" remove apprehensions
" and opposition to the
" treaty by the refiners
" in United States, they
" agreed to, and already

" " have petitioned Madrid
" " by cable to lower the Dutch
" " standard free sugar in the
" " treaty from number sixteen
" " to number thirteen, as they
" " really have scarcely any
" " interest in making sugar
" " higher than number thir-
" " teen.
" " Public interest and
" " opinion here would be
" " gratified if United States
" " would exact free flour.
" " The economical and finan-
" " cial condition affairs in
" " Cuba is so precarious
" " that Spain must yield
" " to any reasonable require-
" " ment to save the treaty
" " in order to make present
" " crop.
" " Petroleum refining
" " interests have petitioned
" " Madrid to change duties
" " to former standard; other-

wise

" -wise considerable industrial
" interests would suffer?
" Williams.
" Consul General.

I would here add, that the planters, in centrifugating their sugars from № 13 to № 16 D.S. would only gain color at the expense of weight and time: the result would be additional molasses, which article has scarcely any mercantile value, at present, for any other purpose than that of conversion into rum.

I am, Sir

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 30 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 93. U.S. Consulate General,
Habana, Dec^r 24^th 1884.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Receipt of Circulars.

No. 93. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, Dec.r 24th 1884.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's circulars of October 31st, and November 20th ultimo. The instructions therein contained have my careful attention.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
JAN 2 1885
RECEIVED.

Ans'd Jan. 9 '85.
Dft Clair

No. 94. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Dec. 26th 1884

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Transmitting a letter of explan=
=ation by Mr. Joseph A. Springer,
Consular Clerk attached to this
office.

One inclosure.

No. 94 U.S. Consulate General
Havana, December 26th 1884

Hon: John Davis -
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I beg to inclose for the information of the Department, a communication from Mr Joseph A. Springer, Consular Clerk, attached to this office, and addressed to me under this date, explaining his conduct in charging and collecting personal fees for gratuitous services, rendered by this Consulate General to American citizens; whose passports on their return home need to be visaed by the authorities.

It is only within the last few days that this fact has come to my knowledge,

and I doubt not that the Department will agree with me as to the impropriety of a Consular Clerk carrying on in this office a passport agency, and that it will sustain me in putting a stop to it.

I am, Sir,

with great respect,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure:

1 — Mr Springer to Mr Williams

December 26th 1884.

Inclosure No 1.
With Dispatch No 94.
Havana Decr 26th 1885.

U. S. Consulate General
Havana Decr 26 1884.

Ramon O. Williams. Esq:
U. S. Consul General.
Havana

Sir:

In obedience to your instructions, I respectfully submit the following explanation in regard to complaints made by several hotel runners of my having lately charged them, for my services in connection with the dispatch of passports of parties leaving the Island -

According to the regulations of this Government, all passports have to be viseed on their owners leaving the Island, and are further required to be presented or registered at their respective Consulates - In this Consulate no fee whatever is charged for

this service, or the issue of the required certificate.

Frequently, however, parties who present their passports are willing, in order to save themselves trouble, to pay me a personal fee, to purchase the necessary stamp and procure the visé at the office of the Civil Government.

In view of the fact that a similar complaint for the same charge was made to the Department in March 1878, by a Mr Smith of Newburyport — rather against the passport system, than against me — and the explanation then made of my action in the matter considered satisfactory, (Vide Instructions No 442 March 5, and 455 April 2d.) I presumed there was no impropriety in my accepting such a service for a fee which was generally

willingly paid. I admit, however, that I utilized the time of one of the office clerks in this business.

With regard to the passports brought to me by hotel runners, I understood they made a charge, but paid me for preparing the passport, and certificate, and otherwise aiding them to obtain prompt dispatch at the passport office. There was no intention whatever on my part to make it appear official, and I regret exceedingly that they should have conveyed to you that impression.

Needless to add, I cease at once this action, and will not again transgress in this particular.

I am Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant
Jos. A. Springer
Consular Clerk

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 2 1885
RECEIVED.

W.R. Hill Dft H Clair

No. 95. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, Dec 27th 1884

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Social condition of Cuba.

Transmitting a slip and translation of an article from the "Diario de la Marina of Havana Dec 27th 1884.

One inclosure

Confidential.

No. 95. U. S. Consulate General.
Havana, December 27th 1884.

Hon: John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

I beg to transmit, herewith, a slip and translation of an article published in the govern= =ment organ the "Diario de la Marina" of this city, and under this date, the context of which is significant inasmuch as it gives a partial description of the present social condition of this Island.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
Ramm O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure.
1 As above.

Inclosure Nº 1.-
With Dispatch Nº 95
Harana, Decr 27th 1884.

From the "Diario de la Marina"
of Harana, Decr 27th 1884.

Oportunas medidas.

El Excmo. Sr. Gobernador General, con el objeto de que la presente zafra se lleve á cabo con toda seguridad, ha dispuesto, que tanto en la provincia de Matanzas como en otras comarcas azucareras se distribuyan y sitúen convenientemente las fuerzas del ejército y [illegible]. De esta suerte los hacendados podrán dedicarse con tranquilidad á sus provechosas [illegible] comarcas que [illegible] durante las [illegible] en los campos [illegible] la provision [illegible] que no [illegible] confianza al [illegible] dados el sosiego [illegible] proseguir la obra [illegible] por medio del honrado trabajo.

Translation:

Oportune Measures.

To the end that the present crops may be made

with perfect security, His Excellency the Governor General has ordered that detachments of the Civil Guard and of the Army, be conveniently stationed about the province of Matanzas and other sugar producing districts. By this means planters will be enabled quietly to perform their profitable task, free from apprehension of molestation by bandits, and all other marauders, who during this season make a practice of committing criminal acts around the country.

The foresight and

and zeal of General Lafayard,
who omits no means of
inspiring confidence to the
country by guaranteeing the
tranquility to the inhabitants
under his government, which
they require to continue the
work of reconstruction through
honest labor are highly
commendable.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 6 · 1885
RECEIVED.

Ans'd & ordered Jan. 8'85

No 96. — U. S. Consulate General

Havana, Dec^r 31^st 1884.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State

Requisition for 100 forms

No 120.

No. 96. — U. S. Consulate General

Havana, Dec^r 31st 1884.

Hon. John Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State -

Washington.

D. C.

Sir:

I have respectfully to request to be furnished with one hundred sheets of form No. 120, "arrivals and departures of American vessels," for the use of this office.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Copy to Navy Dept for the Bureau of Intelligence Sent Jan. 13 '85

Wm Hunter

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 9 1885
RECEIVED.

Confidential.

No. 97. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana Jany: 2 1885

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Closure of the Havana Navy Yard.

One inclosure.

Confidential_

No. 97. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 2d 1885.

Hon John Davis
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I beg to enclose the translation of a slip extracted from the "Diario de la Marina", of this city, dated the 2nd inst., giving the news of the closing of the Havana Navy Yard, which took place on the 1st inst. in consequence, as

stated, of the exhausted condi-
=ition of the public treasury.

This yard is the most ancient naval station in America. In its shops vessels have been constructed, and equipped, that, even two years prior to the Invincible Armada of Philip 2d, kept Drake from attacking this city in his successful maraud-
=ing expedition of 1586, against Santo Domingo City, Carthagena, and Nombre de Dios. Later on its squadrons were respected, too, by the British Admirals Knowles, and Vernon.

The

The event of the closure of this yard, may be considered as indicative of the direction, that the residual political power of Spain will, and is, taking in this hemisphere.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure

1. as stated.

Inclosure N° 1
With Dispatch N° 97
Havana, January 2nd 1885

From the "Diario de la Marina"
of Havana, January 2nd 1885.

El Arsenal.

En cumplimiento de lo ordenado por el Gobierno de S. M. el Rey, hoy se ha cerrado el Arsenal de este Apostadero, quedando en él, como es consiguiente, la fuerza necesaria para la custodia y cuidado de los cuantiosos efectos allí existentes.

El Excmo. é Iltmo. Sr. Comandante General del Apostadero, con tal motivo, ha dirigido al numeroso personal de dicho establecimiento, por conducto del Sr. Comandante General de aquel departamento, la sentida alocucion siguiente:

"Comandancia General de Marina del Apostadero de la Habana.—Al Excmo. Sr. Comandante General del Arsenal.—Excelentísimo Sr.—Al cerrarse el Arsenal de este Apostadero y despedirse su maestranza eventual conforme lo ha dispuesto la Superioridad en telegrama de 15 del actual, se servirá V. E. disponer llegue á conocimien to del personal que la constituye, que esta disposicion que deja á la marina sin ese poderoso auxiliar y á ellos sin el honrado trabajo con que ganaban el sustento de sagradas obligaciones, se comprende haber sido dictada por el Gobierno de S. M. el Rey (q. D. g.) obligado por la necesidad de las economías que imponen las aflictivas circunstancias porque atraviesa el Tesoro de la Isla, que no permite subvenir al gasto tan conveniente y reproductivo como es el que ocasiona la remuneracion de sus útiles servicios.

Son estos de notoriedad, precisamente en la época actual, en que se han llevado á cabo obras de verdadera importancia con esmero é inteligencia, así como en todos tiempos han coadyuvado con su cooperacion práctica, á las obras de nuestros buques con la urgencia que cada caso ha requerido, á fin de mantenerlos siempre en disposicion de desempeñar su importante cometido.

Por estas razones, sírvase V. E. hacerles saber lo satisfecho que estoy de su comportamiento y servicios, como lo está V. E., segun me ha manifestado, habiéndolos podido apreciar mejor al frente de sus trabajos, así como los Jefes de los ramos que los han dirigido; por lo cual me sería muy grato que las instrucciones que del Excmo. Sr. Ministro de Marina debo recibir en breve, permitan á esta Comandancia General poder utilizar los conocimientos que la mayoría de la Maestranza ha adquirido en ese mismo establecimiento con la práctica de muchos años. Dios guarde á V. E. muchos años. Habana, 27 de diciembre de 1884.—*Montojo.*"

Translation.

Translation:

The closing of the Havana Arsenal.

In compliance with the order issued by the Government of His Majesty the King, the arsenal of this city, has been closed, leaving in it, as is natural, a sufficient guard to take care of the government property.

On the occasion, His Excellency, the Admiral of the Station, has issued, through the Commandant of the yard, the following expressive address to the hands.

—

Address.

General Commandancy
of the Havana Naval Station

Excellency:

Upon the closure of this yard, in compliance with telegraphic orders received from Madrid, the 15th instant; and in the dismissal of the persons therein employed, Your Excellency, will be pleased to inform them that the order which deprives the Navy of their efficacious services, and themselves and families of the means of livelihood, originates from the stern necessity of economic retrenchment, imposed by the empty state of the Island's Treasury, which no longer permits the

keeping

keeping up of the yard.

This measure is the more sensible at the present time, when the services of the hands were being utilized upon work of importance, in direction of the public good.

× × ×

Montejo.

Habana. Dec^r 27^th. 1884.

VK

Ans d/ Jan. 20-85.

designated as rec'd as her correction. Comply -

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 13 1885
RECEIVED

D. J. Clair

No 98. — U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Janry: 7th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State

Requesting that a correction be made in the wording of inclosure No 1, accompany=-ing separate and confidential dispatch No 10, formerly numb.=ered 4, and dated August 26th 1884.

No. 98. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Janv 7th 1885.

Hon John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have respectfully to request that you will please cause the following correction to be made, of an error which has occurred in the copying of inclosure No. 1, accompanying my separate dispatch No. 10, formerly number 4, dated the 26th of August 1884.

On page 3d, line 8th, the word "pound" has been used, whereas instead, the sentence should read.

"Therefore, an "arroba", of twenty five pounds, of sugar &c."

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very

respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Ack

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 13 1885
RECEIVED.

File

Dispatch

No 99 U.S. Consulate General
Havana January 7 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Acknowledging receipt of
Instruction No 22; and
forwarding copy of cypher
telegram of December 22 1884.

---

one enclosure

No 99. U. S. Consulate General
Havana Jany 7th 1885.

Hon. John Davis
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt today of Department Instruction No 22, of 29th ultimo.

With reference to the cypher telegram of the 22nd December, which, as received at the Department, was unintelligible, I have to state that I confirmed the same by mail by my dispatch No 92, of the same date.

But for security, I beg to accompany herewith, copy of the cypher; as also of the correct reading of the telegram

referred to.

I have the honor, to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Ramm O. Williams

Consul General

One enclosure

Copy of cypher telegram of 22nd

December 1884.

Inclosure with No 99.
Havana January 7th 1885.

Copy of cypher telegram
of December 22nd 1884.

Hon: John Davis
State Department
Washington.

Minorities appealant hamor
oxton of peregrates hangs
plaem.
Rascal begilt aware orchardist
taboves clodding refiners in
tissues arcade aware assesses
pediment meeted coalesce to
maturater the eruptor sisterly
gnomes. sugar in taboves
goram noticeable senilities to
noticeable substituted subjec=
gates prosperings hostler righters
lands menaces sugar impene=
trable stray noticeable substi=
tuted.
Premiser landlock and

optate impart calyx harlow
infested tissues untasted ferocious
gnomes gag.

The evangelize aware friths
dandy annis Cuba berob pigots
street shooters mullen vagabonds
suppliant protests rectitudes
richly tabooes originators
memorable placidly discom-
fort.

Pedling refining laug-
ridge pedimeet meted to
concussed escalop to gillate
sisterly ottley defences jun-
keting laugridge untasted
sounded.

(signed) Williams
Consul General.

"Hon John Davis
State Department
Washington
A meeting was held this afternoon Government palace, of planters, Governor General presiding. To remove apprehensions and opposition to the treaty by the refiners in United States, they agreed to and already have petitioned Madrid by cable to lower the Dutch standard free sugar in the treaty from number sixteen to number thirteen, as they really have scarcely any interest in making sugar higher than number thirteen.

Public interest and opinion here would be gratified if United States would exact free flour.

The economical and financial condition affairs in Cuba is so precarious that Spain must yield to any reasonable

requirement to save the treaty
in order to make present crops.

Petroleum refining interests
have petitioned Madrid to change
duties to former standard,
otherwise considerable industrial
interests would suffer.

(signed) Williams.

Consul General.

Ack

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN. 13 1885
RECEIVED.

File

W. St Clair

No. 100 U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, Jany: 7th 1885.

Mr Williams to the
Department of State

Petition of Mr W. R. B.
Johnson to load vessels with
timber on the coast of the
Isle of Pines.

One inclosure.

No. 100. U. S. Consulate General.
Havana, January 7th 1885.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington
D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch No. 83, of 21st of November ultimo, in regard to the petition of Mr W. R. B. Johnson, for permission to load vessels with timber on the coast of the Isle of Pines, and to clear them for the United States from Nueva Gerona, in said Island, or from a port of entry in Cuba, and which I presented to the Governor General, as instructed by the Department, I have now the honor to enclose a copy and translation of a communication from the Secretary of the General Government of this Island, in which he informs

1.

me that His Excellency declares, that it is impossible to accede to the request of Mr. Johnson, to whom I have sent a copy of the Secretary's letter for his information.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure.

1- The Secretary of the General Government of Cuba - January 2d 1885.

Enclosure No. 1.
With Dispatch No. 100.
Havana, January 7th 1885.
Translation.

General Government of the
Island of Cuba.
Office of the Secretary
Political Bureau.
General Affairs
Reg: No. 29,372.

In reply to your official communication dated the 18th of November ultimo, requesting that permission be granted Mr. B. R. Johnson, a citizen of your nation, to load Spanish and American vessels with lumber on the coast of the Isle of Pines, bound to the United States, and to clear them at the port of Nueva Gerona, in said Isle, or at

the nearest port in Cuba, I have the honor to inform you that I cannot accede to this request, the case being already provided for by the Customs Ordinances; the interested party can however avail of Article 77 of the said Ordinances which provides as follows:

— Article 77: —

"Collectors of the Customs may permit vessels, whether national or foreign, to load with the products of the country at any port or landing place they are stationed.

"Permission being given to load, vessels will afterwards be allowed to clear upon the presentation by the master and shippers of all documents required, as stated in the two preceding articles.

"Un

"An account of cargo
"will be taken by an officer
of Customs, appointed by the
Collector, and the expense of
same shall be paid by the
shipper.

"Upon finishing
loading, Collectors will require
vessels to go to a port, having
a Custom House for such reversion
of cargo as may be deemed
advisable.

"All Customs dues
and port-charges shall be
paid before the departure of
vessels for foreign ports, to which
end Collectors are held respons-
-ible, and will secure their
payment previous to granting
permits to load.

God preserve you many
years.

Habana, January 2d 1885.
Franco Cassía

To

To the Consul General of
the United States.

60/59.

Gobierno General de
la Isla de Cuba.
Secretaria.
Seccion de Politica
Asuntos Generales
Reg: Nº 29,372.

En contestacion á su carta oficial de 18 de Noviembre ultimo en solicitud de que se concediese permiso al subdito de su nacion Mr W B R. Johnson, para despachar en el puerto de Nueva Gerona (Isla de Pinos) ó el mas cercano de su costa á Cuba, los buques españoles ó Americanos que cargen maderas, en la misma Costa con destino á los Estados Unidos, tengo el honor de manifestar á VS. no serme posible acceder á lo solicitado por ser un

caso previsto por las Ordenan=
=zas de Aduanas, pero el
interesado puede hacer uso
de lo que previene el articulo
77 de dichas Ordenanzas
que á la letra dice.

"Articulo 77.

"Los Administradores
"de Aduanas podran autorizar
"la carga de frutos del pais
"en buques nacionales ó estrangeros
en cualquier puerto ó hacienda
en que se hallen.

"Concedida esta
"autorizacion, el despacho se
"verificará presentando el
Capitan y los cargadores
toda la documentacion
exigida por los dos articulos
precedentes.

"La intervencion
del cargamento del buque se
ejercerá por un empleado
ó dependientes del Resguardo
expresamente delegados al

"efecto por el Administrador
"de la Aduana, siendo de cuenta
del cargador del bugue los
gastos.

"Terminada la carga
el Administrador podra exigir
que el bugue arribe al puerto
donde esta la Aduana para
comprobarlo en la forma que
estime oportuno.

"Los derechos se
ingresaran antes de la salida
del bugue para el estrangero,
á cuyo efecto quedarán
asegurados á satisfaccion y
bajo la responsabilidad del
Administrador, con anticipacion
al permiso de carga."

Dios guarde á V.S. m.s a.s
Habana, 2 Enero 1885.
Franco Cassá.

Sr Consul General de los
Estados Unidos de América

Ack by No 1 file
await further instructions

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 16 1885
RECEIVED.

D.T. Clair

No. 101. U.S. Consulate General-
Havana, January 10th 1885.

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Collection of differential
duties on La Guayra
coffee from New York, per
American steamer "Saratoga".
by the Customs authorities
of Havana.

One inclosure.

No 101. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 10th 1885.

Hon. John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington-
D.C.

Sir:

Acknowledging receipt of the Department's instruct-=ion No. 93, dated December the 30th ultimo, relating to the collection of differential import duties on La Guayra coffee, transhipped in New York per American steam-=ship "Saratoga," for Havana, I have now the honor to enclose for your inform-=ation, a copy of an official communication, which I addressed yesterday upon the subject to His Excellency, the Governor General.

With

With the view of expediting the matter, I made a visit to the Governor General, and delivered the communication, together with its translation, myself, into his hands.

The Governor General, was somewhat surprised to know that this affair had not already been despatched by the Director General of Finance, and sent for the Political Secretary for an explanation.

It was then ascertain=
=ed, that the delay was due to the recent changes effected in the person of the Political Secretary. But, I was promised an immediate reply, which I presume will be favorable; since both the Governor General, and the Director General of

Finance

Finance agree with the interpretation given by the Department to the clause involved.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Jamm O'Williams
Consul General

Inclosure:
1- Mr Williams, to the Governor General Jan 9th 85.

Inclosure Nº 1
With Dispatch Nº 101.
Havana, January 10th 1885.
Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America.
Havana, January 9th 1885

To His Excellency,
The Governor General.
&c &c &c

Excellency:

On the 17th of November last, I had the honor to address Your Excellency an official communication, upon the subject of a discriminating import duty collected by the customs authorities of this city, upon 286 Bags of La Guayra coffee, transhipped in the port

of

of New York, on board the American steamer "Saratoga" for this port, to which communication, I have not, as yet, received an answer.

In consequence, and in obedience to special instructions dated Washington the 30th ultimo, from the Honorable, the Secretary of State, of the United States, I have now most respectfully to ask Your Excellency, to be pleased to inform this office, at your earliest convenience, of the decision that the Island Government may have reached upon the subject, to the end that I may, accordingly, communicate the same to the Honorable, the Secretary of State; adding by instruction, that the Government of the United States

certainly expects that an engagement like that of February 1884, which professes to abolish all differential duties, should be interpreted so as not to discriminate against any cargo carried in an American vessel.

I have the honor to be,
very respectfully,
Y. E's Obedient Servant,
(signed) Ramon O. Williams.
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 16 1885
RECEIVED.

No 102 U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, January 10 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Receipt of instruction.

No. 102. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 10th, 1885.

Hon: John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instruction No. 24, of December 31st ult:- The maps of the United States therein referred to has likewise been duly received.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Lamar C. Williams
Consul General.

Dr St Clair

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 16 1885
RECEIVED

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1885

No 103 - U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Jany: 10th 1885.

Ans. Jy 11th. Also Feb 26th 85

See letter of Feb. 23 '85 from Fernando B. Hamel & Co.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

T Morris Chas

Forwarding a protest of Mr
Fernando B. Hamel, a
citizen of the United States,
and merchant of Havana.

One inclosure.

103. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 10th, 1885.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

Herewith, I beg to transmit the authenticated copy of a declaration, and protest filed, under date of the 8th instant, at this office by Mr Fernando B. Hamel, against the collection of import duties in the port of Barcelona, Spain, on several shipments made thence by him of old iron, and other junk articles from the port of Havana. 1.

Mr Hamel, who has been for many years

favorably known to me, is one of the very few native American merchants, here, still surviving the trituating effects of the system of excessive taxation so long practiced in this Island. And as a last resort for justice, in the present case, begs to appeal to the Depart=ment of State, asking for the exercise of its good offices in his favor, through our Minister at Madrid.

The accompanying declaration and protest is so explicit of itself, that nothing remains for me to say, than to recommend most sincerely the appeal of Mr. Hamel, to the kind, and friendly consideration of the Department.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General

Enclosures 2

Inclosure No. 1 -
With Dispatch No 103 -
Havana, January 10th 1885.
Copy.

Consulate General of the United States of America.
Havana - Cuba.

By this public instrument of declaration and protest, be it known and made manifest unto all to whom these presents shall come or may concern, that on this Eighth day of January A. D. 1885, before me the undersigned, Consul General of the United States of America for Havana, and the depend-encies thereof, personally appeared Fernando B. Hamel, a citizen of the United States, a merchant doing business in this city of Havana, who being first duly sworn

did declare and state as follows: ——————————

That on the tenth day of July 1883, he shipped by the Spanish Bark "Concepcion", Sola Master, bound to Barcelona, Spain, from this port, an invoice of junk-stores, composed of old iron and other metals, and amounting with charges thereon to the sum $5382.75, Spanish gold, and consigned by him to the firm of Balcells & Subiran, of Barcelona; ——————————

that upon the arrival and entry of said shipment at Barcelona, the Custom House authorities levied duties thereon to the amount of $1282. and collected the same from his correspondents, the said Balcells & Subiran, notwithstanding the representations made by them to the Customs

authorities that the collection of said duties was contrary to law and regulations: ——— that on the 11th July 1884, he again shipped by the Spanish Bark "Concepcion", and consigned to the firm of Cirills & Rabell, of Barcelona, another invoice of old iron and metal, amounting with charges to $8282.54 Spanish gold; — the vessel arrived at her destination, was discharged, and the goods cleared at the Custom House, as free of duty; sold and delivered with that understanding, when it appears, that the Customs authorities of said port, demanded of the said consignees, the amount of $3494.83 as duties thereon, and for the payment of which they were forced to

give bonds; _____

_ this appearer further declares that his correspondents in Barcelona have made repeated representations in his name and interest before the Customs authorities of that port, principally to the effect that old metals are not in any sense the production of any country; that in these instances the same proceeded from Cuba, a province of Spain, and were shipped under the Spanish flag; and should not be considered as the production of a foreign country; that the said metals, have already in their original form and when new, paid the corresponding duties to the Customs author=
=ities of Cuba, and now,

broken

broken up and fit for no purpose but re-manufacture into new forms, should not again be assessed for Customs duties; and further, that the collection of such duties upon the said goods was in direct contravention of the law of June 30th 1883; that his correspondents in Barcelona, have also protested before the United States Consul at that port,— the interest being that of an American citizen,— against the collection already made of the duties upon the first mentioned shipment, and demanded the return of the same as illegally collected; and against the pretension and demand of the Customs authorities for duties upon the second shipment, for

which the consignees were forced to give bonds, which should be cancelled; but as this appearer is informed and believes, such representations have been without any effect. ——

And this appearer further declares that on the 11th August 1884, he shipped an invoice of similar goods — old metals — amounting to #2438.35 by the Spanish Brig "Tuya", bound to Barcelona and consigned to Balcells & Subirau; ——

—— that on the 23d October 1884, he shipped an invoice of old metals amounting to #10,352.68. by the Spanish Bark "Marco", bound to Barcelona and consigned to Avills & Rabell; and that on the 5th November 1884, he

made

made a similar shipment
of old metals amounting to
#2286 5/. by the Spanish
Bark "Maiso", bound to
Barcelona and consigned
to Balcells & Subiran;—
— and fearing that the
Customs authorities of
Barcelona may have
similar pretensions for the
payment of duties, and
take the same action in
these last mentioned
shipments as in the two
before mentioned cases, this
appearer hath by these
presents publicly and
solemnly protested, against
all and every person and
persons whom it doth or
may concern, and against
all and every matter or
thing, had and met with
as aforesaid, whereby and
by reason whereof, the said

aforesaid already has, or hereafter shall appear to have suffered or sustained damages or injury. —— — And doth declare that all losses, damages, costs, charges and expenses that have happened to the said aforesaid through the action of the Customs House Author= =ities of Barcelona, as herein= =before set forth, are and ought to be borne by those to whom the same may by right appertain, the same having occurred as before mentioned, and not by or through any insufficiency, default or neglect of this aforesaid or of his agents and correspondents; reserving to himself the right to further extend this protest, should need and occasion require.

Thus done and protested

protested in the port of
Harana this 8th day of
January a. D. 1885.
(signed) Fernando B Hamel.

In testimony whereof
the said appearer has
hereunto subscribed his
name, and I the said
Consul General, have
granted to him this public
instrument, under my
hand and the seal of
the Consulate General, to
serve and avail him, and
all others whom it doth
or may concern, as need
and occasion may
require.

(signed) Ramon O. Williams.
U S. Consul General.

Seal.

A true copy -
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Desp

Dft Clair

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 21 1885
RECEIVED.

No 104. — U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Jany 13th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Transmitting an extract, taken from the french "Journal des Fabricants de Sucre" of Paris, and translated, and published in spanish, by the "Avisador Comercial" of Havana, on the 10th instant.

One inclosure.

No. 104. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, January 13th 1885.

Hon John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

Believing it will be of interest to the Department, I beg to enclose the accompanying translation of an extract taken from the "Journal des Fabricants de Sucre" of Paris, and reproduced, here, in the "Arisador Comercial" of the 10th instant. 1./

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Ramm O. Williams
Consul General

Inclosure:
1 - As above.

/

Inclosure Nº. 1.
With Dispatch Nº 104.
Havana, January 13th 1885.

Extract taken from the french "Journal des Fabricants de Sucre" of Paris, and translated, and published in spanish, by the "Avisador Comercial" of Havana on the 10th instant.

Hemos dicho que el consumo actual de los Estados Unidos, con una poblacion de 55.000,000 de habitantes, era de 1.250,000 toneladas y que los progresos realizados en 1883 eran de un 8.02 p%; este es un aumento poco más ó ménos constante desde hace ya algunos años, y nada hace suponer que se detenga, sino al contrario que siga en progreso. La supresion de las tarifas en vías de realizarse, el aumento regular, de la poblacion, que será de 100 millones de habitantes á fin del siglo, y el acrecentamiento en fin de los recursos ya tan grandes de este pueblo, exento de cargas públicas, que pesan tanto sobre las naciones europeas, todas estas circunstancias permiten evaluar el consumo probable de los Estados Unidos en el año de 1,900 en 3 millones de toneladas al menos. Esto no equivaldrá aun más que á 30 kilógramos por individuo, ó sea un coeficiente apenas igual al de Inglaterra en 1883, y que permite admitir, dados los hábitos similares de los dos pueblos, que nuestra evaluacion de 3 millones de toneladas, está muy por debajo de la verdad.

¡Qué hermoso campo de exportacion! ¡Que admirable corriente, en la que Alemania, previsora, inteligente, bien armada para la lucha económica, procura ya ampararse!

¿La dejaremos sola hacer la conquista de este vasto mercado azucarero, abierto á todos y en el que en este momento, España, Inglaterra y Holanda, buscan, por convenios comerciales concluidos ó por concluir, hacerse plaza? ¡Tres millones de toneladas de azúcar, si no es más, hay que suministrar á los Estados Unidos de aquí á quince años! Hé aquí un elemento precioso de cambio, fletes de salida para nuestra marina, y una produccion remunerativa para nuestra agricultura agonizante; y si nuestros hombres de Estado tienen la ambicion de fundar un imperio colonial, para lo cual el país no les escatima los sacrificios, que no desdeñen fundar tambien un imperio comercial, para el que nuestro país tiene todos los elementos.

B. Dureau.

Journal des Fabricants de Sucre.

Translation:

"We have said that the consumption of sugar in the United States, with its present population of 55,000,000 of inhabitants, has, reached the amount of 1,250,000, tons in the year 1883, making an increase of 8.02 per cent over the previous one, which is, a little more or less, the constant increase observable, there, for some years past; and there is no reason to believe that it will diminish: to the contrary, the probability is that it will still augment."

The suppression of import duties in the United States, now in course of real=ization: the growth of its population, which will be 100,000,000 of inhabitants at

the end of the century: the development of the already great resources of that nation, exempt from those public burdens, which weigh so heavily upon the nations of Europe, are all circumstances, that permit the estimate of 3,000,000 tons as the probable amount of the annual consumption of sugar, to take place, in that country, by the year 1900."

"This would only give a quota of 30 kilogrammes per head, one scarcely equal to that taken by each inhabitant of England in 1883, and which, taking into consideration the similarity of habits of those two countries, is much under, instead of above the truth."

"! What a magnificent

"magnificent field for export=
=ation!! !What a magnif=
=icent market, of which,
Germany, so foreseeing, so
intelligent, so well armed
for economic struggle, is now
preparing to take possession.!"

"Shall we let her become
the sole owner of the vast sugar
market of the United States,
which is still open to all-?"

"Spain, England, and
Holland, are seeking through
commercial treaties, now
already, or in course of
conclusion, each, a place in
that market."

!"Three millions of
tons of sugar, if not more,
have to be supplied annually,
to the United States within
the next fifteen years.!"

"Here is a precious opportunity for trade; outward freights for our shipping; a remunerating market for our agonizing agriculture; therefore, if our statesmen have the ambition to found a colonial empire, (sic), let them not neglect, first, to found a commercial empire, in the elements of which, our country (France), so much abounds."

(signed) B. Dureau.

Dft Claire

Ack by No + File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 21 1885
RECEIVED.

No 105 U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, Jany: 14th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Differential duties collected by the Customs authorities of Havana, on La Guayra coffee, from New York, per steamer "Saratoga":

One inclosure.

No 105 U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 14, 1885.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State -
Washington -
D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatches Nos 76, 81, and 82, respectively dated the 7th 15th and 18th of Nov-ember ultimo, and number 101 of 10th instant, relating to the 286 Bags of La Guayra coffee, brought from New York to this port in the American steamship 'Saratoga', upon which the Customs authorities collected import duties under the 4th instead of under the 3d column of the Cuban Tariff, I have now the honor to enclose for the information of the Depart-ment, the reply of the present Governor General to my

'communications addressed to him, and dated the 17th Nov.r 1884 and 9th instant..

The decision given by His Excellency, is entirely contrary to what I was led to expect, judging from his expressions emitted in the several conferences I had previously held with him upon the subject; but it seems that His Excellency, has been prevented from exercising authority, in accordance with his own private convictions, in consequence of telegraphic orders received, by his predecessor, from the Government at Madrid, the 25th of May last, to the effect, that the "Ministry understood that only the products of the United States, and proceeding from thence, were comprehended in the Convention" (. Este

"Ministerio entiende que solo productos Norte Americanos procedentes Estados Unidos estan comprendidosen Convenio.)

This telegraphic instruction was confirmed by Royal Order, dated at Madrid, the 28th of July, 1884, which was put into execution by the former Governor General, Castillo, and remains still unrepealed.

According to this decision, should no counterrailing duty be imposed by the Gorernment of the United States on Spanish vessels loading the products of other nations,- in American ports,- for Cuba and Puerto Rico, then will Spanish shipping be favored over the shipping of the United States; and our vessels will

be debarred of that perfect reciprocity of treatment, clearly contemplated by the Convention of the 13th of February, 1884.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Jamm O. Williams
~~Consul General.~~

Inclosure:
1 - The Governor General of Cuba to Mr Williams Jany 12th/85.

Inclosure No 1
With Dispatch No 105.
Habana, January 14th 1885
Translation.

General Government of the Island of Cuba.

Office of the Secretary.
Political Bureau.
General Business.

In answer to your communication of the 17th of November last, and 9th instant, referring to the collection of customs duties on 286 Bags of coffee, the product of the Republic of Venezuela, pro=
=ceeding (procedentes) from the United States in the American steamer "Saratoga", His Excellency, the Governor General, after a hearing with the Department of the Treasury,

has been pleased to decide, that
you be informed, as I now have
the honor to manifest, that
the 286 Bags of coffee, have
been appraised under the 4th
column of the tariff, in accord-
=ance with the decision given
by this General Government on
the 30th of May last, which
ordered that the benefit of
the third column could only
be enjoyed by the products of
the United States imported
under the American flag,
a circumstance foreseen in the
treaty between the United States,
and Spain, the said benefit
corresponding only to the products
of that nation proceeding from
the same; but not to the products
of other nations, though they come
from ports of the United States.

God guard you many years.

Havana, 12th January 1885.

Franco Cassá.

To

To the Consul General of the
United States of America.

Copy.

Copy.-

Gobierno General de la Isla
de Cuba. Secretaria -
Seccion de Politica.
Asuntos Generales.

En contestacion á las comunicaciones de VS de 17 de Noviembre ultimo, y 9 del corriente referentes al cobro de derechos arancelarias á los 286 sacos cafe, pro=ducto de la República de Venezuela, procedente de los Estados Unidos en el vapor Americano "Saratoga" el Exmo Sor Gobernador General, oida la Inten=dencia General de Hacienda, se ha servido resolver se manifieste á VS. como tengo el honor de verificarlo, que los 286 sacos café han sido aforados por la 4ª columna del arancel con arreglo á lo acordado por este Gobierno General en 30 de Mayo ultimo, que dispuso que solo podrian gozar del beneficio de la tercera columna los productos de los Estados Unidos, importados en

bandera

bandera Americana, circunstancia
prevista en el tratado celebrado
entre los Estados Unidos y España,
el cual comprende solo los productos
de aquella nacionalidad con
procedencia de los mismos, pero
no los productos de otras Naciones
aunque vengan de puertos de la
Union.

Dios gue á V.S. muchos años

Habana 12 de Enero de 1885.

(signed) Francisco Cassá.

Sor Consul General de los
Estados Unidos de America.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 26 1885
RECEIVED.

File

No 106. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 16th 1885.

Mr Williams to the
Department of State

Acknowledging the receipt of instructions Nos 25 and 26, both dated 8th instant.

No. 106. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 16th 1885.

Hon: John Davis
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowl-
=edge the receipt of your instruct-
=ions, numbers 25, and 26, both
dated the 8th instant; as also
of fifty copies of form No. 120.

Mr Springer, has been informed
of the decision of the Depart-
=ment, as stated in your No. 25.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
James O. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 26 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 107. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Jany 14th 1885

Mr Williams, to the Department of State.

Aud. Dpt a.a.a. Feb 21 '85.

Transmitting an authenticated copy of a protest filed by Mr. Vicente M. Julbe, a citizen of the United States, and agent for the "Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, at Havana. Cuba.

One inclosure.

No 107. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 17th 1885.

Hon John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington -
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to trans=
=mit, herewith, an authenticated
copy of a declaration, and
protest, filed in this office on
the 13th instant by Mr Vicente
M. Julbe, a citizen of the United
States, and general agent for
this Island of the "Equitable
Life Assurance Society of the
United States", against excessive
taxes collected of him by the
Treasury Department of this
Island. I have this day
brought the case to the notice of
the Governor General, asking
for redress, and will advise the
Department, in due course, of

the result.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclose-

1 Protest of Mr Vicente M Julbe

Jany: 13th/85.

Enclosure Nº 1 -
With Dispatch Nº 107 -
Havana January 17th. 1885.

Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America.
at Havana.

On this thirteenth
day of January A.D. 1885, be-
fore me, the undersigned, Consul
General of the United States
of America for Havana, and
the dependencies thereof, per-
sonally appeared Mr Vicente
Mr Gelbe, a citizen of the United
States, and to me known, who
being duly sworn, declared as
follows: that he is the General
Agent in this Island, of the
Equitable Life Assurance Society
of the United States, and having
been assessed, and required to
pay, by the tax authorities of
the Island, an amount for the
contribution or tax due by him

as Agent of a Life Insurance Company, greatly in excess of that assigned to such Agents by paragraph 6 of the Tariff in force, and notwithstanding the representations made by him to the Gefe Economico, or Head of the Department of collection of taxes, having been obliged to pay the exhorbitant amount referred to, for the first two quarters of the economic year, he hereby enters this Note of protest against whom it doth or may concern in the premises to serve and avail him hereafter, should need and occasion require.

(signed) V. M. Julbe
General Agent of the
Equitable Life Ass: Soc:
of the U.S. of Etna

Before me

Attest. (signed) Ramon C. Williams
Consul General.

A true copy.
Ramon C. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 26 1885
RECEIVED.

D.H. Clair

No 108 U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Jany 17th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the Asst. Sec. of State
Department of State. Jan 27 '85

Transmitting an authenticated copy of a protest filed in this office by Mr Pedro Bustillo, a citizen of the United States, and Agent of the "New York Life Insurance Company," of New York, at this place.

One inclosure.

No 108. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, Jany: 17th 1885.

Hon John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington-
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, an authenticated copy of a protest filed in this office by Mr Pedro Bustillo, a citizen of the United States, and agent at this place for the "New York Life Insurance Company of New York", against the forcible collection of excessive taxes by the Treasury Department of this Island. The case has been referred to the Governor General, and I have respectfully to request the instructions of the Depart-ment with regard to the same; as, also that reported in my No 107.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your

Your Obedient Servant -

Ramon O. Williams

~~Consul~~ General.

Inclosure.

1 - as stated

Inclosure No. 1
With Dispatch No 108.
Havana, Jany 17th 1885.
Copy.

Consulate General of the United States of America. Havana.

On this fourteenth day of January A D 1885, before me, the undersigned, Consul General of the United States for Havana, and the depend-encies thereof, personally appear-ed Mr Pedro Bustillo, a citizen of the United States, to me known, who being duly sworn, declared as follows: that he is the General Agent in this Island of the New York Life Insurance Company of New York, and having been assessed by the tax authorities of the Island, an amount for the contribution or tax due

by him as agent of a Life Insurance Company, greatly in excess of that assigned to such agents by paragraph 6 of the Tariff in force, and the payment of the same having been refused by him, and in consequence thereof, notwithstanding his represent-ations that he was unjustly assessed, and the enforcement of said payment illegal and contrary to regulations, the safe and furniture in his office, belonging to the said New York Insurance Company, have been embargoed and levied upon for the collection of the tax referred to by the officer of the Department of collection of taxes; wherefore, he hereby enters this note of protest accordingly against whom it doth and may concern in the premises,

to serve and avail him here=
=after should need and occasion
require.

(signed) Pedro Bustillo.

Before me.
attest
(signed) Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

A true copy.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Corr

Ack by No & File

Dft Clark

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 28 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 109. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 20th 1885.

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State

Transmitting copy of a letter address=
=ed by Mr Williams to Mr Davis,
dated Brooklyn, January the 13th
1883, and an extract copied by
the "Avisador Comercial", of this
city, the 17th instant, taken from
the 'Journal des Fabricants de
Sucre' of Paris, proposing the
negotiation of a Commercial Treaty
with the United States for french
beetroot and West Indian cane
sugars.

Two inclosures.

No. 109. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, January 20th 1885.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

Referring, both to my letter, dated Brooklyn the 13th of January 1883, copy of which, with a portion of its phraseology slightly altered, I now accompany for more convenient perusal; and to my dispatch No. 104 of 13th instant; and in the belief that it will be of interest to the Department, I beg to transmit herewith, the translation of an extract copied by the "Avisador Comercial" of this place, dated the 17th instant, and taken from the "Journal des Fabricants de Sucre", of Paris, upon the proposition for the negotiation of a treaty by France

with the United States; avowedly, to the end, that franchises may be secured from the Government of the United States, by treaty, in favor of the beet-root sugar of France, and the cane sugars of her West India colonies, Guadaloupe, and Martinique.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Samm O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure N° 2.-
With Dispatch N°. 109-
Havana, January 20th 1885.

From the "Avisador Comercial"
of Havana. January 17th 1885.

Los tratados.

Por consecuencia de los convenios comerciales que los Estados Unidos están celebrando con algunas naciones, y muy especialmente los formulados para Cuba y Puerto Rico, Méjico y Nicaragua, ha comenzado en Francia un movimiento de escitacion al Gobierno promovido por Diputados de las colonias antillanas, á fin de que procure un tratado con aquella nacion, que ponga á los azúcares de la Guadalupe y Martinica, en igualdad de condiciones á los de los mencionados paises.

"Las ventajas concedidas por los Estados Unidos, dice un Diputado de la Guadalupe el Presidente del Consejo de ministros, á las Islas Sandwich, Méjico y á España para Cuba y Puerto Rico, y que tambien están á punto de ser acordadas á Inglaterra para sus colonias de las Indias occidentales, han sido otorgadas mediante ciertas compensaciones. No ignorais, señor presidente, que el mercado de los Estados Unidos, bajo el punto de vista de la exportacion de azúcar, es el segundo mercado de nuestras colonias de Guadalupe y Martinica; estas Antillas casi no producen mas que azúcar. En la exportacion de este producto, entra por una parte unos 50.000,000 de kilógramos, de azúcares rojos, que no tienen salida para Francia; comprendereis perfectamente que si nuestras colonias no gozan de las mismas ventajas que los paises enumerados, se les cerrará el mercado de los Estados Unidos."

Este señor Diputado termina pidiendo al Presidente del Ministerio que abra negociaciones con la república del norte para la celebracion de un tratado de comercio, en el que se reclamen las mismas ventajas que se conceden á los paises antedichos, como único medio de salvar la produccion azucarera de esas colonias.

El *Journal des fabricants de sucre*, apoya calurosamente esta demanda y pide que ese tratado sea general para la república francesa, con el fin de procurar tambien el mercado de los Estados Unidos, á los productores de azúcar de remolacha franceses.

Translation.

Translation:

'The Treaties.'

"As a consequence of the commercial conventions that the United States, are now negotiating with several nations; but due most especially to those with Cuba, Puerto Rico, Mexico, and Nicaragua; a movement has been started in France, by one of the deputies of the West India colonies, towards urging the French Government to make a treaty with the United States, that will allow of the placing of the sugars of Guadalupe, and Martinique, in the market of the United States, on an equal footing with the sugars of the other islands.

The

"The franchises conceded by the United States", says a deputy of Guadaloupe to the President of the Ministry; "to the Sandwich Islands, Mexico, to Spain for Cuba and Puerto Rico, and which they are also upon the point of granting to England for her West India Islands, have been given in exchange for certain compensations.

Your Excellency will not ignore, that the market of the United States, viewed from the stand-point of sugar, is after that of France, the second market for the colonies of Guadaloupe, and Martinique, both of which scarcely produce anything else but sugar.

Among the productions of these islands, there are 50,000,000 kilogrammes of brown sugars, which find no market

in

in France. Your Excellency, will, therefore, readily understand that, if our colonies should not enjoy like advantages with the sugar countries already mentioned, they will lose the sugar market of the United States."

The Deputy, terminates his exposition, by asking the President of the Ministry to open negotiations with the United States, for the celebration of a commercial treaty, in which, the same advantages granted to the other sugar producing islands, be claimed for Guadaloupe, and Martinique, as the only means of saving the sugar production of these two colonies.

The "Journal des Fabricants de Sucre", ardently

supports the demand, and further, asks that the Treaty be made general, and that it apply to the whole french republic; to the end, that the sugar market of the United States be obtained for the beet-root sugar producers of France.

Mr. Adee:-

We answered him on June 5th thanking him for his suggestions & stating that his suggestions would receive consideration should occasion arise.

Jan. 29 '85.

What answer, if any, did Mr. Davis make to this letter of R. O. Williams?

ADG

Jan 28.

June 5 '83

Inclosure No 1 Dispatch
With Dispatch No 109.
Habana, January 20th 1884.
Copy.

Personal:

35 Cambridge Place.
Brooklyn, May 7th 1883.

Hon John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington
D.C.

Dear Sir:

In view of the public notice that the President of the Republic of Santo Domingo, has lately asked for authority from the legislative power of that country to conclude a Commercial Reciprocity Treaty with the United States; to the avowed end that the former

may escape the disastrous effects, that, in the absence of such treaty, it would suffer in the case of the ratification of the one now pending between the United States, and Mexico, I beg most respectfully to suggest, that whenever such treaty comes up for the consideration of the Department of State, that provision be made, in it, in favor of American Shipping and Navigation Interests, by restricting all imports to be allowed to enter the ports of the United States from Santo Domingo free of duties to the

1st Condition: That they shall only arrive in American, or Santo Domingo vessels.

2nd Condition: That all imports from the United States, which, in virtue of such treaty,

may be allowed to enter the ports of Santo Domingo, free of duties, shall, likewise, be transported in American, or Santo Domingo vessels.

The application of these conditions to a treaty with Santo Domingo, would only be, as far as practicable in this case, on the part of the United States - an extension of the principle underlying the government of its Coast-wise Trade, - the object being to limit its carrying, exclusively to American vessels.

This provision is absent in the treaty negotiated a few years back between the United States, and the Sandwich Islands; and it is, also, absent in the one just concluded between the United States and Mexico.

But, it would seem to be an omission or oversight, that in Reciprocity Treaties with countries dependent upon the sugar market of the United States for their growth, and supports, and between which, and the United States, the Atlantic, and Pacific Oceans intervene, no provision should be made in favor of American shipping; and this is the more noticeable in view of the present meagre and decrepit condition of the American merchant marine.

This omission, to all appearances, constitutes the principal reason why the majority of American merchants, and ship-owners look upon the Sandwich-Island treaty with so little favor.

Should it be omitted, too,

too, in the Reciprocity Treaty about to be sought by Santo Domingo, then, the result in time will be; that the United States, shall have built up there, through its sugar and molasses market, a rich and populous island for other nations to sell to, and carry for, but not to buy from, as now happens with the Islands of Cuba, and Puerto Rico; both of which subsist almost exclusively upon the sugar market of the United States.

The present and prospective sugar interests of Santo Domingo, must always depend as much upon the United States, as do those of Louisiana; and sugars and molasses shipped from New Orleans to New York, and other ports of the United States, have to be carried in American bottoms,

which is no more than right and reciprocal; since the production of sugar in Louisiana, is promoted, and supported by the protection granted it by American consumption.

But, if a State of the American Union, is subjected to this restriction, it is difficult to perceive why a sugar island of the West Indies, or of the Pacific Ocean, equally dependent upon the protection of the United States, should be exempt from it.

Besides, it is not solely the native inhabitants of Santo Domingo, who are now developing the sugar interests of that Island; and, thereby, simultaneously extirpating disorder, and evolving order instead, through re-productive labor, and its effects, agriculture

and commerce; but principally by her new-comers.

Persecution, and mis-government, always in like proportion, cause like effects, whether practiced under an Alba, a Louis XIV, or a Valmaseda: accordingly, the development of Santo Domingo has been started by Cuban planters, who were not permitted to remain, in peace, at home.

That country, owing to its many natural resources, together with its proximity to the United States, is destined to become one of its principal purveyors of sugar.

The present, and prospective magnitude of the demand from the United States for

tropical products, will ever exert great commercial attraction upon the sugar islands of the West Indies, and of the Pacific Ocean, and this attraction will increase in direct proportion to the growth of these United States.

In consequence, these Islands, will the one after the other ask to participate in the benefits of the Great American System of Inter-State Free Trade of the United States.

Therefore, a due regard for the interests of the United States, would seem to require, that in granting these treaties, the interests of American shipping be not lost sight of, and that our commercial intercourse with them, be assimilated as far as practicable, and wise,

to

to the laws governing the coast-
-wise carrying trade of the United
States; thus with mutual advant-
-age would both enjoy the common
benefits of Commercial Union,
without any of the disadvantages
of Political Union.

I am, Sir,
with great respect.
Your Obedient Servant.

(signed) Ramon O. Williams.

Com & Mr. Foster.

Ack by No 4

File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 28 1885
RECEIVED.

Dft Clair

No 110. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, January 20th, 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Transmitting, copy of an extract from despatch No 291 to the Department, and dated the 20th of November 1875, and translation of an article from the "Diario of Matanzas" of January 18th/85.

Two inclosure.

No. 110. U.S. Consulate General.
Habana, January 20th 1885.

Hon John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.

Sir:

Begging reference to a portion of my dispatch No. 291, of November 20th 1875, copy of which is hereto attached for convenient reference; I have now the pleasure to enclose for the information of the Department, an article extracted from the "Diario of Matanzas," dated the 18th inst:, upon the present ruinous prices of sugars in this island; and upon the ratification of the pending treaty with the United States.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Lamm O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure No. 2 -
With Dispatch No. 110 -
Havana, January 20th 1885.

From the "Diario de Matanzas"
of January 18th 1885

Los precios del azúcar.

Dice el *Avisador Comercial:*

"Empiezan á preocuparse nuestros hacendados por los precios tan bajos que tiene el azúcar, que no les permiten siquiera cubrir los gastos. Asunto es este hoy, en estremo delicado y que dada la difícil situación que han venido atravesando, bien comprendemos que no permite espera; pero hay aun que tener un poco de calma.

La prensa del interior empieza ya á hacerse eco de la desanimacion que se dibuja, y á este respecto, *El Comercio*, en un desalentador artículo, dice lo siguiente:

"Nada halagüeña, á la verdad, es la que se ofrece á nuestros hacendados con el bajo precio á que ha abierto el mercado de azúcares, en la campaña que empieza.

Es cierto que atendidas las escasas ventas efectuadas tanto en nuestra plaza como en las demás de la Isla, no puede decirse aun que los tipos por aquellas alcanzado sean los normales, toda vez que las mismas por parte de los vendedores han obedecido á urgentísimas y apremiantes necesidades de momento, de las que suele aprovecharse la especulacion; pero no lo es ménos por desgracia, que aun cuando esta consideracion sea lógica, por ahora no hay esperanzas de mejores precios, ántes por el contrario, los compradores se muestran más y más retraidos cada dia que trascurre, séase por falta de órdenes ó por temor á nuevas bajas."

Nosotros que venimos observando esa inactividad y despresion del mercado, la creemos hoy muy lógica y natural; los precios del azúcar son en efecto, ruinosos para los hacendados, pero el acentuado retraimiento de los compradores, más que á la baja de precios, á las grandes existencias en los mercados consumidores y a la gran produccion de azúcar en Europa, creemos que obedece hoy á las vicisitudes del tratado con los Estados Unidos. Pendiente de ratificacion este convenio que ha de influir bastante en los precios del azúcar en nuestro mercado, y no estando aún muy afinzada su ratificacion, el mercado tiene que estar en calma, hasta que haya noticias francamente favorables á la ratificacion."

A lo dicho agregaremos que según telégramas de Londres, que publica el *Diario*, ha habido una inusitada demanda de azúcar, especialmente de remolacha. Una gran cantidad cristalizada procedente de Demerara, fué vendida, alcanzando un aumento de precio de seis peniques por quintal.

Translation:

"The Prices of Sugar"

We extract the following from the "Avisador Comercial"

"Our planters are becoming alarmed at the low prices for sugar, which do not cover the cost of production. This is an extremely delicate subject, and in view of the present difficult situation through which they are passing, we can well understand their impatience; but calmness is still necessary

"The provincial press begins to re-echo the lamentations upon this subject, and "El Comercio,

of Sagua, in a dispirited article utters the following.

"Indeed, the planters of this district, find nothing encouraging in the low prices at which the sugar market has opened this season.

It is true, that in view of the few sales made in Sagua, as well as in the other ports of the island, it cannot yet be said that the present prices are normal, especially as they have been made, at a time when holders have been so heavily pressed by the urgent wants of the moment, such as of which, speculation always avails itself; but it is none the less unfortunate, even though this consideration be logical, that at present,

there

there are no hopes of better prices, but rather to the contrary; for buyers, from day to day, appear more reluctant, impelled to this either by the absence of orders, or because they fear a further decline."

"We who have continually observed this depression and inactivity, believe it now to be very logical, and natural; prices of sugar are indeed, quite ruinous for the planters, but the remarkable absence of buyers, is due more in our opinion, to the uncertainty attending the ratification of the treaty with the United States, than the low prices of sugar, or to the larger stocks abroad, or to the great production of sugar in Europe.

Pending the ratification

of this treaty, which must greatly influence the prices of sugars in our market, and there being no certainty about this yet; the market will necessarily remain dull until there is positive information favorable to its ratification.

Inclosure No. 1.
With Dispatch No. 110.
Havana, January 20th 1885.
Copy.

Extract from dispatch No. 291,
dated Havana, November
the 20th 1875.

Hon John L. Cadwalader.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

× × × ×

"The past year has
been disappointedly an unfavor=
=able one to the material
interests, and present status
of things in Cuba, and due to
various concurrent causes. In
the first place, it was estimated
that the exports for the present

"year would have amounted to 110 and to 120 millions of dollars, whereas they have not reached 77 millions of dollars.

One of the most effective in this sense, seems to have been the law of the last Congress of the United States, by which the duty on foreign sugars imported there, was increased 25 per cent. This measure, in its operation, has specially pressed upon Cuba, and Puerto Rico; as at least 81 per cent of the former's crop, and nearly all of that of the latter is sold in the United States.

"Strange to say, and notwithstanding this increase of duty, which producers here had supposed, would have been paid by the consumers in the United States, as in

former years; quite to the
contrary has ensued; for
even with this new tax on
sugar, the raw article has
brought this year in the
United States, at least, one
half cent per pound less
than last year. These
two causes alone have
aggregated to the prejudice
of Cuba, during the past
crop, to an amount exceeding
fourteen millions of dollars
gold [$14,000,000]. A
further consequence of the
increased duty in the United
States, is already appearing
in the coming enlarged
crop in Louisiana; which
in time will act unfavorably
in its competition in the
American market against
Cuban sugars, producing to
some extent similar tendencies,
that were wont before the war

of the late rebellion; when Louisiana, under the protection of fiscal laws, was enabled to grow sugar cane sufficient to supply from 60 to 70 per cent of the sugar demand in the United States.

"The beet-root production during the last year in Europe, has reached the enormous amount of one million, one hundred thousand tons [1,100,000.] of sugar, and the coming crop there, according to the estimates of their statisticians, will show another increase of production of, at least, ten per centum over that of last year. Should this be realized, then scarcely any market at all will be left in Europe for Cuba and Puerto Rico, and as a

consequence, almost their
entire crops will be forced
for sale into the market
of the United States; and
as the amount of supply
will determine the price
to be paid by the consumer,
and not the cost of production;
prices must inevitably fall
to a low standard, unless
prevented by some unexpect=
=ed event. In this some
advantages, will accrue to
the general material —
interests of the United States,
as a partial compensation
for the injuries inflicted
upon our commerce by the
action of the Differential
Tariff ruling here, and
which, acting like a turbine
wheel, receiving the force
of impulse at one angle,
and deflecting it at another,
nearly all that balance of

trade which should be returned to the United States as the reciprocal, for the seventy odd millions comprised principally of sugar and molasses sold there, is diverted, and imparted by its action to Spain, and her dependencies, with its immensity of Commercial Moving Power, contained therein, for the invigoration, and development of their agricultural, industrial, commercial, and maritime interests.

From the joint causes, herein, mentioned, and operating day by day, with increased activity, the probability is, that next year's business must turn out even worse than that of the past, and it therefore

"remains to be seen if the remedial measures proposed by the Decree, subject of this dispatch, will be less empiric, or more curative of the ills now afflicting the body politic of this Island, than the many measures that have to the same end, hitherto been used by these authorities"

× × × ×

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant

(Signed) Ramon O. Williams.
Vice Consul General.

Con. Bureau and Mr. Bartle will please note.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 28 1885
RECEIVED.

D'H Clair

No. 111 U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 21st 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State

Reporting the official recognit-
=ion of Mr James H. Springer,
as Vice Commercial Agent of
the United States, at San Juan
de los Remedios, by the Govern=
=ment of Spain.

No 111 — U.S. Consulate General.
Habana, January 21st 1885.

Hon John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report, that by an official communication, received from the General Government of this Island, and dated the 10th instant, I am informed that Mr James A. Springer has been recognized as Vice Commercial Agent of the United States, at San Juan de los Remedios, by the Government of Spain.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Mr Morrison

~~Dr H Clark~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 29 1885
RECEIVED.

No 112 U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Jany 24th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State

Acknowledging the receipt of
the Department's instruction
No 98 of January 12th 1885.

No. 112. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, January 24th 1885.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction No. 28, dated the 12th instant, together with a copy of a communication from Mr. Adam Badeau, late Consul General at this city, relative to his accounts, requesting me to furnish information on certain points thereof.

I have to state in reply that the pieces of furniture referred to, consist=ing of book-case, settee, and writing table, or rather a book-stand or table; but presumably the article intended,

are still in the office.

Regarding the charge of $200. for an annual report, I do not find in the accounts kept during the period of Mr Badeau's incumbency, any item of that, and for that purpose. During his absence in September 1883, Mr Badeau wrote to Mr Springer, then in temporary charge of this Consulate General, asking to have certain material, for his annual report, prepared and forwarded to him, and I understand that Mr. Springer and Mr Ramon H. Silas, a clerk in the office, in the pay of Mr Badeau, prepared a number of tables and statistics, and forwarded them to Mr Badeau, in addition to the reports of the other Consuls on the Island, to assist him in preparing

his

his own.

In the matter of cab-hire; it is customary in this office, if the clerks should incur any such expense in the dis-charge of official errands, or messages, that the same be repaid to them, and a strict account kept of it. This amount is generally included with the expenditure for postage, and other petty expenses during the quarter, and is always so charged in the "Miscellaneous" account. For the September quarter of 1883 the amount was $22.13, Spanish gold, according to the books.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 29 1885
RECEIVED.

File

No. 113. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, Jany: 24th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Receipt of instruction No. 27
of 10th instant.

No. 113. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Jany: 24th 1885.

Hon John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction No. 27, of 10th instant, which has my careful attention.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 11 1885
RECEIVED.

Dft Clair

Ans'd Feb 16 &

No. 114 U.S. Consulate General

Havana, February 4th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State

Continued imprisonment of Mr. Cirilo Pouble, a naturalized citizen of the United States, at Havana.

No. 114. U. S. Consulate General

Havana, February 4th 1885.

Hon: John Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington.

D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my com=
=munication of November 27th last
past, announcing the arrest of
Mr Cirilo Pouble, a naturalized
citizen of the United States, of
Cuban birth, I now have the
honor to inform the Depart=
=ment, that his case still continues,
as I then reported, in its first
incompleted stage of secret
procedure, (en sumario) and

that Mr Pouble yet remains, as I then informed the Depart=ment, confined in Fortress Principe.

Early, in December, Pouble through his advocate, Don José Mª Carbonell, petitioned the Court to the end, that his case should be separated from that of others with whom, it appears, he is accused of jointly conspiring against the Spanish Government; and asking that he should be tried alone; especially, as the other parties have not yet been arrested; and because to delay his trial until the arrest of the other parties were effected, would be almost tantamount

to

to making the term of his present incarcer-
-ation, unlimited. His petition,
however, was refused by the Court;
-whereupon Pouble, then, appealed
to the Audiencia; but the case
has not yet come for hearing
before this Higher Court.

A month ago, I
called, upon Judge Godoy, of the
Cathedral District Court, who
has the case under his charge,
to ask, extra-officially to be
informed of the, then, state of
the proceedings. His
Honor received me most
attentively, and to my enquiries
replied, that as he was still
awaiting information from
other parts, in answer to letters

inquisitorial (exhortos) issued
by him, that the "sumario" was
yet unavoidably delayed, though
it would probably be concluded
in all the month of January.
But, this term having expired
without the "sumario" being yet
finished, I called upon the
Judge again, yesterday, with
like purpose. He, then, told
me that the delay in bringing
Pouble to trial to the present,
had been caused by the tardi-
=ness with which the Court
had received the information
asked for by its letters inquisit-
=orial. Also, that there was
still pending an answer
due from the jurisdiction of

Colon

bolon. He, then, added
asswringly, that in all the
present month, he expected
to bring the case up for trial,-
even in the absence of the
others accused with Pouble,
when the latter would be able
to exercise his rights of defense.

To the above, I beg to
add; that notwithstanding the
assurance given by the Court,
still I am apprehensive that
the trial of Pouble may yet be
delayed beyond the term
indicated by His Honor, Judge
Godoy, and I would, therefore,
respectfully ask that the Depart-
=ment be pleased to give me
instructions upon the subject.

I

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul-General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 11 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 115 U.S. Consulate General.
Havana. February 5th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Receipt of instruction No.
29, of January 20th ultimo.

No. 115. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, February 5th 1885.

Hon: John Davis
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report the receipt of the Department's instruction No. 29, of 20th January ult°, which has my careful attention.

I am, Sir,
Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul. General.

Sent

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 13 1885
RECEIVED.

Ack'd & ordered Feb. 25 '85

No. 116 U.S. Consulate General

Havana, February 11th 1885

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Requisition for books.

No. 116. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, February 11th 1885.

Hon John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

I have respectfully to ask to be furnished with the following books:

One "invoice book."
" "ship's Daily Journal.",
and the latest edition of the Customs Tariff of the United States, the latter being particularly needed for frequent reference at this office

I have the honor

to be, Sir,

Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramm O. Williams

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 13 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 117. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, February 11th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Acknowledging the receipt of the Department's circular, dated December 12th 1884, in reference to the importation of old bagging.

No. 117.— U.S. Consulate General

Habana, February 11th 1885.

Hon John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's circular, dated December 12th ultimo, upon the subject of the importation of old bagging into the United States, which has my careful attention.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Ach & Gen. 26 85.
Copy to Madrid Legn
27 Feb 85

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 20 1885
RECEIVED

No. 118. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, February 13th 1885.

PRINTED
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE
1885

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Fine of $2000. imposed on the American Barkentine "Ocean Pearl", by the Customs authorities of Matanzas.

Transmitting copy of the sworn declaration of Mr E. S. Henley, Master, dated at Matanzas February 10th 1885.

One inclosure.

No. 118.- U.S. Consulate General.
Havana. February 13th 1885.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to the despatch No 115, addressed to the Department under date of the 11th instant by Mr Vickers, our Consul at Matanzas, with regard to the fine of $2000.- imposed upon the American Barkentine "Ocean Pearl", of Portland, Me., by the Customs authorities of Matanzas, for the non-delivery of ten empty Hhds: from her last cargo, brought from Philadelphia, I now beg to enclose, for the use of the Department, the sworn

statement, dated the 10th instant, and made before Consul Vickers, by E.S. Henley, master of the said Barkentine.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure.
1.— Sworn declaration of Wm E. S. Henley, master of the Amer. Barkentine "Ocean Pearl."

Inclosure No. 1.
With Dispatch No. 118
Havana, February 13th 1885
Copy.

D
1885

Consulate of the United States.
Matanzas

On this the 10th day of February 1885, before me, the undersigned, Consul of the United States at Matanzas, personally appeared Mr E. S. Henley, master of the American Bktine "Ocean Pearl", of Portland, and deposed, that, he sailed from Philadelphia on the 11th of December 1884, and arrived at this port on the 27th of the said month laden with Coal, Cooperage, Machinery, and Empty Hogsheads; that, after

discharging his cargo he received a communication from the Collector of Customs, dated the 13th day of January 1883, informing him that there had resulted a short delivery in his cargo, as compared with the manifest, "ten Empsty Molasses Hhds,"

That for said reason, and in accordance with Par: 13, Art: 12, Chap: 2 of the general regulations of Custom Houses, he had incurred a fine of Two hundred Dollars for each one of the Empsty Hhds not discharged, which sum, amounting to Two thousand Dollars, should be paid to the Custom House through his consignee as soon as possible.

That on receipt

of

the foregoing communication he delivered it to the United States Consul in this port who assumed charge of the matter, as the correspondence will show. That subsequently on the 3rd day of February 1885 he received another communication from the Collector, informing him that His Excellency the General Intendente of the Treasury, by decree of the 29th of January last past, had approved the proceedings taken against him on account of the short delivery of ten hogsheads from the Bktne "Ocean Pearl" and at the same time indicated that a petition would be presented to the Government of His Majesty asking a remission of the fine as regards the part corresponding

to the Treasury, and ordering that the fine be deposited in the Treasury vaults until such time as a decision should be taken. All of which he communicated to me for my information with the indic= =ation that within the term of five days the Two thousand Dollars be paid into the office of this Custom House, and that in case that it be not done an execution, (ejecutivamente) would follow in the form prescribed by article 1384 of the regulations of the Custom House.

The foregoing communication was likewise delivered to the U.S Consul in this port who also stated that he would assume charge of it.

That on or about the 22nd of January 1885, he the a/pearer, chartered his said

vessel

vessel to Messrs Melville & Co,
American Merchants, —
residents in this city for a
voyage to a port in the U.
S. with a cargo of Molasses.
He commenced loading
on the 26th of the same month
and finished on the 9th of
February instant on which
day, he, accompanied by the
inward consignee, and a
member of the firm shipping
the outward cargo applied
to the Collector of Customs
for the clearance of vessel
and cargo; that clearance
was refused unless the fine
be secured to the Custom House
either by Cash payment or
by a guarantee for the same
to the satisfaction of the Collector;
that on this the inward
consignee offered to give
his guarantee for the amount
in question. To this the

Collector replied that his signature was satisfactory, but that the guarantee would not be sufficient without an additional signature of a reliable and responsible party. That the appearer has reason to believe that the refusal of clearance on delivery of a guarantee of the consignee, only, was not the real cause of declining to dispatch the vessel, but owing to some fancied grievance he the Collector adopted, a course which as far as known to the appearer and as far as he can learn has not been, heretofore, the general custom of this port, is without precedent and arbitrary, and he does not deem it just or equitable that an imagined wrong

should be used to interfere
with a legitimate commerce
to the detriment of himself,
his owners, of the vessel and the owners
and shippers of the cargo.

(signed) E. S. Henley.
Master of Am.n Bk.tine "Ocean Pearl."

Before me:

(signed) David Vickers.
U.S. Consul.

Seal

Supplementary to the
above the deponent further
deposes and says that
from subsequent testimony
consisting of the certificate
of the shippers Isaac Hough
& Co. of Philadelphia, now
in possession of the "Intendente
General de Hacienda" the
ten molasses hogsheads were

accidentally left on the wharf
at the aforesaid city
(signed) E. S. Henley.
Master of Am^n Bk^tine "Ocean Bard."

Before me:
(signed) David Vickers
U.S. Consul.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 20 1885
RECEIVED.

Ans'd by Mr. Adee's draft Feb. 26. '85

No. 119. U. S. Consulate General.

Havana, February 13th 1885.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Reporting a fine of $400.- imposed upon the American schooner "James E. Woodhouse", of New Haven, Conn:, by the Custom House of Nuevitas, Cuba, and transmitting copy of a communication addressed to the Intendant General

of the Treasury of this Island upon the subject by the writer.

One inclosure.

No. 119. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, February 13th 1885.

Hon: John Davis.

Assistant Secretary of State.

Washington.

D.C.

Sir:

I beg to enclose, herewith, for the information of the Department, a copy of a communication, addressed by me to the Intendant General of the Treasury of this Island, under date of yesterday, with regard to a fine of four hundred dollars, imposed by the Customs authorities of Nuevitas, upon

the American schooner "James E. Woodhouse" of New Haven, Connecticut, arrived at that port, from New York, on the 26th day of January last past, laden with flour, rice, and other merchandise, — the alleged reason for which, is, differences of weight between those stated in the Bills of Lading, and the vessel's manifest.

This matter will continue to receive my attention, and I shall, in due course, report the result to the Department.

I am, Sir, very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure No 1
With Dispatch No 119.
Habana February 13th 1885.

Consulate General of the
United States of America.
Habana, Febuary 12th 1885

To His Excellency,
The Intendant General
of the Treasury, of this Island.

&c &c &c

Excellency:

Referring
to the several interviews
I have had the honor to
hold with Y.E., in relation
to the fine of $400.- ~
imposed by the Collector
of Customs of Nuevitas,
for differences of more and
less weight, which have
resulted upon the unloading
of the cargo of the American

schooner "James E. Woodhouse",
from New York, and arrived
at said port on the 26th
day of January last past;
I have now to present to Y.E.
the following exposition
of the principal facts
connected with the voyage,
and discharge of the said
vessel.

According to the
sworn declaration of the
captain, E. McLantry,
made before the Consular
Agent of the United States,
at Nuevitas, the schooner
aforesaid sailed from New
York on the 8th day of Jan-
uary last past, laden
with a full cargo of
merchandise, principally
composed of flour, rice,
with other articles, and
consigned to Mr Vicente

Rodriguez, a merchant of Nuevitas: that, she arrived at this last mention=ed port on the 26th day of the same month, commencing to discharge cargo on the following day, and finish=ed the operation on the 31st day of the said month, without any extraordinary occurrence: that, five days after the captain was notified of the impos=ition of a fine of $400., as above stated, the payment of which Captain Lantry refuses, upon the well known ground that it is the universal custom, and law, practiced by all maritime nations, that vessels are never responsible either for the weight - or the contents of the cargoes they carry on board;

for

for which reason the captain refuses to pay the fine, and protests against its collection. To this I beg to add, that none better than Y.E., yourself, understands that a local law can never supplant a universal law, such as that upon which the Captain bases his reason for withholding the payment of this fine.

In virtue whereof, and in obedience to the instructions, I have received respecting like cases, from the Honorable the Secretary of State of the United States, at Washington, I have respectfully to ask that Y.E. be pleased to declare the said fine null and void, and to issue instructions,

to

to the end that no obstacle be placed in the way, on this account, to prevent the clearance of this schooner by the Custom House of Nueitas.

I have the honor to repeat to Y.E. the assurances of my most distinguished consideration and high esteem.

(Signed) Ramon. O. Williams
Consul General.

Ack and Comment
Ack & Feb. 26 85
Copy to Treasury Dept
27 Feb

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 20 1885
RECEIVED

No. 220 U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Feby 14th 1885

Mr. Williams,

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1885

to the
Department of State.

Transmitting copies of correspondence in reference to the fine imposed upon the American Barkentine "Ocean Pearl" by the Customs authorities at Matanzas, Cuba

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Two inclosures.

No. 120. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, February 14th 1885.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to, and in amplification of my dispatch No. 118, dated yester=-day, in reference to the fine of $2000. imposed at Matanzas upon the American Barkentine "Ocean Pearl", from Philadelphia, for short delivery of ten empty hogs=-heads, I now beg to enclose for the information, and use of the Department, copy of my communication addressed upon the subject to His Excellency, the Intendant General of the Treasury of this Island, and 1/

2. his reply thereto.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosures:

1.- Mr. Williams to the Intend=
=ant General of Treasury -
January, 30th 1885.

2. The Intendant General
to Mr Williams - Feby 4th/85.

Inclosure N° 1_
With Dispatch N°. 120_
Havana, February 14th 1885.

PRINTED 1885

Consulate General of the
United States of America
Havana, January 30th 1885.

To His Excellency,
The Intendant General
of the Treasury of this Island.

&c &c &c

Excellency:

Referring to the two interviews I had the honor to have with Your Excellency regarding the fine of $2000.- imposed at Matanzas upon the American Bark "Ocean Pearl", from Philadelphia, for having discharged ten empty hogsheads less than those specified in her

manifest, I have now the
pleasure to accompany the
certificate made before the Consul of
Majesty, the King of Spain
—, at the said port,
by the shippers, Messrs
Isaac Hough & Co., in which
they declare to have shipped
only two hundred and thirty
five empty hogsheads, instead
of two hundred and forty five.

I have, therefore,
respectfully to ask that Y. E.
may accept the certificate
aforesaid as sufficient evid=
=ence of that fact, and that
in virtue thereof, you may
be pleased to acquit the
vessel of the penalty, referred to,
so that she can proceed to
take in cargo without —
further loss of time.

I have the honor
to repeat myself, very —

respectfully.
Y.E.'s Obedient Servant.

(Signed) Ramon O. Williams.
Consul General.

Inclosure Nº 2.
With despatch Nº 120.
Havana, February 14th. 1885
Translation:

RECEIVED
1885

Intendancy General
of the Treasury of the
Island of Cuba.
Nº 1589.—fº 50.

A communication will be addressed tomorrow to the Ministry, asking for the re=mission of that part belonging to the Treasury, of the fine imposed by the Custom House of Matanzas upon the master of the American brig "Ocean Pearl", for being short, on the discharge of cargo, 10 empty hogsheads, of those specified in his Manifest; a penalty which is entirely in accordance with paragraph

13 of art: 121 of the present ruling Customs Ordinances.

At the same time orders have been sent to the Collector of the Custom House, aforesaid, of Matanzas, to admit a guarantee for the whole amount of the fine until the decision of the Home Government shall be received.

All of which I have the honor to inform you in reply to your communication of the 30th ultimo upon the subject, having also to add, that what has been done in this case is all that this Intendancy is authorized to do.

God preserve you many years.

Habana, February 4th 1885.

Lucas Garcia Ruiz.

To the

Consul General of the United States of America.

Copy.

Yntendencia General
de Hacienda
de la Isla de Cuba.

Nº 1589 fº 50.

En el dia de mañana se oficia al Ministerio, solicitando la condonacion de la parte que á la Hacienda corresponde de la multa impuesta por la Aduana de Matanzas al capitan del Bergantin Amer=icano "Ocean Pearl", por faltar en la descarga 10 bocoyes vacios de los que espresaba su Manifiesto; penalidad que está en un todo ajustada á lo que previene el inciso 13 del artº 121 de las Ordenanzas de Aduanas vijentes. Al propio tiempo se ha dispuesto que el Admor de la mencion=ada Aduana de Matanzas admita garantia por el total de la multa hasta la

resolucion superior que recaiga.

Lo que tengo el honor de manifestar á V.S, como contestacion á su atento escrito de 30 del pasado sobre el asunto de que se trata; debiendo hacerle presente, que lo hecho es lo único que está en las facultades de esta Yntendencia.

Dios guarde á VS muchos años.

Habana, 4 Febrero 1885.

(signed) Lucas Garcia Ruiz

Sõr Consul General de los Estados Unidos de America.

Approved -

Mch 1st

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

Dft Clair

No. 121. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Feby 18th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Case of Mr Cirilo Pouble, a citizen of the United States, imprisoned at Havana

Transmitting copy of a communication, addressed by the writer to the Governor General of Cuba, Feby 16th 1885.

One inclosure.

Nº 121. U. S. Consulate General
Havana February 18th 1885.

Hon John Davis,
Assistant Secretary of State.
Washington
D. C.

Sir:

With reference to my dispatch Nº 114, in relation to the case of Mr. Cirilo Pouble, now under detention at Fortress "Principe", one of the fortifications of this city, I now beg to enclose copy of a communication, which I addressed to His Excellency, the Governor General of this Island on the 16th instant, asking for the removal of Pouble from his present to more healthy quarters, and for greater liberty

1.

for the taking of physical exercise.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
Ramm D. Williams
Contract General

Inclosure.

1- As stated.

Inclosure No 1.
With Despatch No 121.
Havana, February 18th 1885.

Consulate General of the
United States of America.
Havana, Feby 16th 1885.

To His Excellency.
The Governor General
of this Island.
&c &c &c

Excellency:

I have been informed by the sister of Mr Cirilo Pouble - now imprisoned at Fort Principe that he states, that the calabozo or cell in which he is confined, is small, narrow and damp, and that in consequence his health is impaired

, which statement I believe
is true, from the report
made to me by the
Consular Clerk of this
Consulate General, whom
I sent yesterday to the
fort for this purpose.

I have now, therefore,
again to call Your
Excellency's kind attention
to this matter, and have
respectfully to ask, that
you be pleased to order
that Pouble be removed
to the quarters in front
of his cell, that is, to
those occupied on other
occasions by the prisoners
Calixto Garcia, Emilio
S. Nuñez and N. Rivero;
and also, that he be
permitted to take more
exercise, allowing him,
for that purpose to
walk about freely during

the day in the yard adjoining that part of the fort.

I have the honor to repeat to Y.E. the assurances of my high esteem and distinguished consideration.

(signed) Ramon O. Williams.
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

Dft Clair

No. 1212. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, February 18th, 1885.

Audt - Dft Mar 5/85

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Transmitting copy of a communication addressed to the Governor General of Cuba, by the writer under date of 17th instant claiming the return of $390.-, amount of a fine imposed upon the Master of the American steamship "Cienfuegos" by the Customs authorities of Cienfuegos, Cuba. in November of 1884.

One inclosure.

No. 122. U. S. Consulate General=
Havana. Feby 18th - 1885.

Hon John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose for the inform= 1.
=ation of the Department, copy of a communication, which I addressed to His Excellency the Governor General of this Island, on the 17th instant, call=
=ing his attention to, and asking for the return of $390.-, collected by the Collector of Customs of Cienfuegos, last November, as a fine, in my opinion, unjustly exacted from the Captain of the American steamship "Cienfuegos,"

belonging to the line of
Messrs James C. Ward
& Co°, of New York.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon C. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure.

1_ Mr Williams, to the
Governor General
Feby: 17th-1885.

Inclosure N°1_
With Dispatch N°.122_
Habana, Feby: 18th 1885.
Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America.
Habana, Feby 17th 1885.

To His Excellency,
The Governor General.
&c &c &c

Excellency:

I have the honor
to call Y.E's attention to a
fine of $390.- collected by
the Customs authorities
of Cienfuegos, from the
Captain of the American
steamship "Cienfuegos",
belonging to the line of
Messrs James E. Ward

& Co. of New York.

The facts of this case are as follows:

By an involunt-
= ary omission of the clerk
encharged with the despatch
of the steamer's papers,
in New York, fifty cases of
coal oil, "Diamante" brand,
consigned to Dn Sebastian
Zurro, of Cienfuegos, were
left out of the Manifest:

Upon the Purser,
making the customary
comparison, at sea,
between the Manifest and
ship's Bills of Lading,
he discovered the mistake,
and corrected it by insert-
=ing an explanatory note
upon the Manifest, just
below the signature of the
certificate attached to it

by

by the Consul General of Spain, in New York.

Upon arrival of the steamer at St Jago, the first port touched in the Island on arriving from New York, and upon the coming aboard of the Custom House officer at St Jago for the Manifest, the Purser upon making delivery of this document, explained to this officer both the discovery of the mistake, and its correct=ion, at sea.

At the suggestion of the Collector of Customs at St Jago, information of the occurence was telegrafshed to the Collector of Customs of Cienfuegos, for which port, as already

stated, the oil was intended.

Upon arrival at Cienfuegos it was found, in reality, that the 50 boxes of oil were on board; but in spite of the correction made in the manifest upon the High-Seas, and of the information communicated by telegraph from the Collector of St. Jago, the Collector of Cienfuegos claimed that by article 121, paragraph 12, the ship was liable to the fine of five times the amount of duty; and by his order the sum of $390.- was authoritat=irely collected from the Captain of the steamer.

For Your Excel=lency's knowledge of this transaction

transaction, I enclose a copy of the official communication dated the 4th of November last past, addressed to the Captain of the steamer "Cienfuegos" by Dn Joaquin Fernandez, Collector of Customs at Cienfuegos.

As Your Excellency will readily comprehend, this act on the part of the Collector of Customs of Cienfuegos, involves a very grave principle of inter-national law.

The Purser of an American steamship, upon the High-Seas, in the exercise of his revisory duty, found a mistake in the ship's Manifest, corrected it, and upon entering the jurisdiction of a province of Spain

gave immediate advise to
the proper authorities;
and this information
was further supplemented
by telegraphing the news
to the authorities of the port
of Cienfuegos, a port to be
reached by the steamer
several days thereafter;
yet upon the arrival
and unloading of the
steamer at Cienfuegos
the Collector disregards an
act done on an American ship
upon the High Seas, and
which, in the sight of the
law of the United States,
was a perfectly legal act,
and subordinates it to his
views of the local law of
Cuba; A very novel, and
ex parte interpretation, indeed,
of inter-national obligations.

But, Excellency,

even according to the local law of Cuba, no offense has been committed, as any one will decide who should take the pains to read paragraph 12 of Article 121 of the Customs Regulations of Cuba; because that paragraph only imposes a fine on "each package of merchandise found on board, and not comprehended in the manifest, of two to ten times the duty marked in the tariff on the goods contained." But, in this case the 50 cases of oil were clearly comprehended in the manifest; for as I have already stated they were inserted in it upon the High-Seas and information of the fact was communicated together

with its delivery to the first boarding officer, met on the ships entering Spanish jurisdiction.

It cannot be possible, as the action of the Collector of Customs of Cienfuegos would seem to imply, that it is the intention of the local law of Cuba to — prohibit the exercise of a legal right on board of an American ship when on the High Seas in pursuit of a voyage of licit commerce.

Therefore, I desist from further discussion upon that officer's action, relying for reparation upon Your Excellency's high sense of justice, enlightened judgment, and well known desires to facilitate, rather than obstruct commerce between the

United

United States and Cuba;
and in consequence, and
in virtue of my instructions
received from the Honorable
the Secretary of State of
the United States, in such
cases, I have hereby, respect-
-fully to ask in the name of
the United States Goverm-
=ment that Your Excellency,
in view of the facts, be
pleased to order that the
said fine of #390 be
returned to Dn Gustavo
Graban, the agent at
Cienfuegos of Messrs James
E. Ward & Co. of New York.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Y. E.'s Most Obedient Servant.

(Signed) Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Copy

Repeat that the reasonable request stated in Mr Lee's despatch No 1 supra should be granted. He will do all he properly can toward alleviating the troubles of Citizens of the United States

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 2 1885
RECEIVED.

Mar 5/85

Just Claim

No. 123. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, February 20th, 1885.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Case of Mr Cirilo Pouble.

Transmitting a copy and translation of an official communication from H.E. the Captain General of Cuba dated February 19th instant, in reference to the above subject.

One inclosure.

No. 123. U. S. Consulate General

Havana, February 20th 1885.

Hon: John Davis.
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch No. 121, of 18th instant, I have now the honor to enclose, herewith, a copy and translation of a communication, which H. E. the Captain General has been pleased to address me on the 19th instant, in reply to my note to him of the 16th instant, in reference to

1.

Mr. Cirilo Poulle, imprisoned
at Fortress "Principe", in this
city.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure:
1- The Captain General of
Cuba, to Mr Williams.
February 19th 1885.

Inclosure nº
With Dispatch nº
Havana, Feby 1885-
Translation.

Captaincy General
of the Island
of Cuba.

I have received your polite communic=
=ation of the 16th instant, and have now the honor to reply thereto.

I should be pleased to defer to your request, were I not prevented by reasons which you will perfectly appreciate.

The prisoner Cirilo Pouble, is in the Principe Fortress, at the

disposal of one of the Courts of First Instance of this city, and it does not pertain to my authority to modify the conditions of his imprison=ment.

Being confined at a fort, he must be subject to the rules of all such, and neither can these be altered, nor can the Governor, directly responsible for the fort and for the people in it, be required to make exceptions, which the Regulations will not admit.

But granting your already once before preferred request, I ordered that he be allowed to take

exercise, under the necess=
=ary vigilance, during
the maximum of time
that is allowed to
prisoners; but if he should
be allowed an extension
of time, over the others, it
would not only give rise
to just complaint, but
would compel an
increase in the guard
duty, which it would not
be lawful to ask of the
garrison of the Fort.

The barracks are
free dwellings and are
not intended for prisoners;
for the latter as such have
to be under ward, in a
cell, and to transfer one,
fitting up one part of the
barracks as a jail, besides
the strangeness of the case,
it would compel extra

precautions and a special guard, which it is not possible to appoint for only one prisoner.

For all these reasons, it is impossible to grant what you wish.

Nevertheless, and in accord with my constant deference to the indications of your Consulate, I have ordered a military surgeon to visit and carefully to examine Mr Cirilo Poublé's prison, and you may rest assured that all necessary measures will be taken, that the hygienic condition of his lodging shall leave nothing to be desired, within what is required for the custody of the prisoner.

God

God preserve you many years.

Havana, 19th February 1885

Ramon Fajardo.

To the Consul General of the United States.

Copy.

b/s y.

Capitania General
de la siempre fiel
Isla de Cuba

Estado Mayor.
Seccion 5ª.

He recibido la atenta comunicacion de VS. del 16 de los corrientes, y tengo el honor de contestarla.

Muy grato me seria deferir á cuanto se solicita ó no impedirlo razones que VS. podrá apreciar perfectamente.

El preso Dn Cirilo Poble está en la Fortaleza del Principe, á disposicion de uno de los Juzgados de primera

instancia de esta Capital, y
no corresponde á mi autor=
=idad modificar las condi=
=ciones de su prision.

Detenido en un
Castillo, tiene que sugetarse
á los reglamentos de todos
ellos; y ni estos pueden
alterarse, ni exigirse al
Gobernador, directamente
responsable del fuerte y
del personal que lo ocupa,
escepciones que la Ordenanza
no admite.

Accediendo á lo
ya una vez pedido por
ese Consulado, dispuse que
se le permitiera pasear,
con la vigilancia necesaria,
el maximum del tiempo
que se concede á los presos:
pero, si se le concederá mas
espansion, que á los demás

no

no solo se producirian justas quejas, sino que obligaria á un esceso de servicio de vigilancia, que no es licito pedir á la guarnicion del Castillo.

Los pabellones son viviendas libres, y no se destinan á presos; porque estos, en concepto de tales, tienen que estar bajo llave, en un calabozo y de trasladar á alguno, habilitando un pabellon: como cárcel, á mas de lo extraño del caso, obligaria á obras de seguridad, y á una guarnicion especial, que no es posible nombrar para un preso solo.

Por todas estas razones no se puede conceder lo que V.S. desea.

Sin embargo defer=
=ento siempre á las
indicaciones de ese
Consulado dispongo que
un Médico Militar visite
y reconozca minuciosa
=mente la prision de Don
Cirilo Pouble; y tenga
V.S. la seguridad de
que se tomarán cuantas
medidas sean necesarias
para que las condiciones
higienicas de su albergue,
no dejen nada que desear,
dentro de las que exije
la custodia del preso.

Dios gue á V.S. m.ª a.ª
Habana 19 de Febrero 1885.

(signed) Ramon Fajardo

Señor Consul General de
los Estados Unidos.

Cov

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 5 1885
RECEIVED.

Ans 8/
Mch. 9 '85.

No. 124. U. S. Consulate General

Havana, Feby 25th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Fine of $400. - imposed upon the American schooner "James E. Woodhouse" by the Customs authorities of Nuevitas, Cuba.

One inclosure:

No 1124. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, February 25th 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary of
State,
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch No 119, dated the 13th instant, informing the Department of the impos=ition of a fine of $400.-, upon the American schooner "James E. Woodhouse", of New Haven, Conn: I have now the honor to enclose the copy / of my letter addressed on /

the 23d instant to the U.S. Consular Agent at Nuevitas, Mr Joaquin Sanchez Adan, upon the same subject.

This case turns out to be of a very different nature from what the first report of Mr Sanchez led me to believe, and upon which I based my communication of the 12th inst: to the Intendant General of the Treasury. It now appears, that the Bills of Lading, of this schooner, contain the following very queer clause; viz: "The consignee is responsible for all shortages, differences, fines, &c, that

may

"may be imposed upon the Captain." This clause certainly gives rise to the surmise that it was inserted because it was suspected, that, for some reason or other, shortage might occur, and fines, in consequence, might be imposed; and this leads of course, to the suspicion, that smuggling of cargo was intended; for otherwise, what could have been the necessity for the consignee to assume the responsibility of paying for the delinquencies of the opposite party to the charter party or to the Bill of Lading?

As a common

carrier the ship's Captain was only obliged to deliver his cargo to the consignee in the same good condition in which it was received, and in accordance with the custom of the port of destination. But neither the one condition nor the other entail the necessity of precautions against shortages, and fines.

Under such circumstances, and in the presence of such adverse evidence, the Department will readily comprehend the difficulties of this defense. Further it places this Consulate General in the ridiculous position of

serving as instrument of a Spanish merchant, in his efforts to violate the revenue law of the Spanish Govern= ment.

Yesterday, I received a telegram from Mr Sanchez, informing me, that the schooner had sailed the day before under bond given by the consignee; and he would send me the Bills of Lading by the first steamer; saying, also, that nearly all the Bills of Lading nowadays contain the clause, in question, printed on them, meaning, I suppose, specially for the port of Nuevitas.

I am, Sir,

Very

respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure:

1- as stated.

Inclosure No. 1
With Dispatch No. 124
Havana February 25th 1885.
Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America
Havana, February 23rd 1885.

Joaquin Sanchez Adan Esqre,
U.S. Consular Agent,
Nuevitas.

Sir.:

Your letter of the
12th instant, covering a copy
of the "Expediente", re Custom
House Report, of Nuevitas, in
the case of the fine of $400.-
imposed upon the American

Schr: "James E. Woodhouse"
has been received. Also,
your telegrams of the 16th
and 21st.

To the former I
telegrapked you as follows:
"The Intendant will reply
"to my note tomorrow."
To the latter I answered;
"If the Bill of Lading of
"the "Woodhouse" contains
"the clause - "that the consignee
"is responsible for fines," then
"the affair is complicated, and
"I am of opinion that the
"Captain should in turn
"claim against the consignee."

On the receipt of

your first telegram of the
4th instant informing me of
this affair, I proceeded, at
once, to take the usual
steps to obtain the condone-
-ment of the fine. But,
the information conveyed
by the "Expediente" or Report,
brought by your letter of the
12th instant, referred to
above, has put the case in
a very different light, from
that given by your first
telegram; for I notice
that it reports that the
Bill of Lading, contains
a clause to this effect,
viz: "that the consignee
is responsible for all shortages,

differences, fines &c., which might be imposed upon the Captain."

In all my experience with shipping, and therefore, with Bills of Lading, I have never heard of one with a similar condition. In neither of your two letters or telegrams do you mention this facts and I have, only obtained it from the Report of the Customs authorities of Nuevitas, which you enclose.

I feel quite certain that the Department of State, will not approve any actions

of

of this Consulate General, that would place it in the false, and undignified position of instrument to a Spanish Merchant in the apparent attempt to violate the revenue law of the Spanish Government; hence my telegram of this date.

In view of the condition of the Bill of Lading, I see no remedy for the Captain but to pay the fine, and claim its return from the consign=ee, in accordance with the same Bill of Lading.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

(signed) Ramon O. Williams.
Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 5 1885
RECEIVED.

No 125. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, February 27, 1885.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Acknowledging the receipt

of the Department's

instructions numbers 30,

31, 32, and 33, dated

January 21st and February

the 14th, 16th, and 19th, 1885.

No. 125. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, February 27th, 1885.

Hon: William Hunter-
Second Assistant Secretary
of State.

Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor
to acknowledge the receipt
of the Department's —
instructions numbers, 30,
31, 32, and 33, respect=
=ively dated January 21st
ultimo, and February the
14th, 16th, and 19th instant,
all of which have my most

careful attention.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Ramon O. Williams

Consul-General.

C Ob

Inform Mr Pueblés
partner in New York
Instructed el. de la C.
3 steps elsewh. 10 '85.
Ack by Leo & file.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 5 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 126. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, February 28th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Case of Mr Cirilo Pouble.

Transmitting copies, of a communication addressed to H. E. the Governor General, and his reply thereto, both dated February 27th 1885, in reference to the subject.

Two inclosures.

No. 126. U. S. Consulate General

Havana, February 28th 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,

Second Assistant Secret=

=ary of State.

Washington.

D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, for the information of the Depart= =ment, copy of a commun= =ication, which, in obedience to your instruction dated the 16th instant, I addressed yesterday to His Excellency, the Governor General of this Island,

1/

in relation to the continued
imprisonment of Mr Cirilo
Pouble. I, also,
2./ enclose copy, together with
the translation, of the
answer returned Dec 6th through
the Political Secretary
of the Island Govern=
=ment.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosures:
1/2 - as stated.

Inclosure Nº 1.
With Dispatch Nº 126.
Habana, February 28th 1885.
Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America.
Habana, February 27th 1885

To His Excellency,
The Governor General.
&c &c &c

Excellency:

By special
instruction of the Honorable,
the Secretary of State, dated
at Washington, the 16th

instant, with reference to
the continued imprison-
-ment of Mr Cirilo Pouble,
a naturalized citizen of
the United States, I am
ordered to communicate
to Your Excellency, that
"if Mr Pouble has legal
assistance, and the guarant-
-ees of the Cushing-Calderon
protocol, the Government
of the United States asks
no more than his speedy
trial, or if not to be brought
to trial, then it asks his
release.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,

Y.E.'s

Y.E.'s Obedient Servant,

(signed) Ramon O. Williams.

Consul-General.

Inclosure No. 2.

With Dispatch No. 126.

Havana, February 28th 1885

Translation.

General Government of
the Island of Cuba.

Office of the Secretary.

The prosecution of the cause against Mr. Cirilo Pouble, having been submitted to the Court of First Instance of the Cathedral District, in accordance with the Protocol signed at Madrid the 12th of January 1877: — His

Excellency, the Governor General, informed of the contents of your communication of this date, referring to Pouble, has been pleased to decide that the said Judge be recommended, through the Supreme Court of the Island, as has already been done to-day, to attend to the case with all possible activity, and that the Government be informed of the result; thus, complying with the desires of the Department of State, of the United States, mentioned in

your communication, referred to, and which by order of His Excellency, I have the honor to transmit for your knowledge.

God guard you many years.

Habana, 27th Feby: 1885

Francisco Cassá.

To the Consul General of the United States at this Capital.

Copy

Copy:-

Gobierno General
de la Isla de Cuba.
Secretaria

Sometido al Juez
de primera instancia
del distrito de la Catedral
el conocimiento de la
causa seguida contra Dn.
Cirilo Pouble en cumpli-
-miento de lo estipulado en
el Protocolo firmado en
Madrid en 12 de Enero
de 1877, y enterado el Escmo.
Sor Gobernador General
de la communicacion de VS.
de esta fecha, referente

á dicho sugeto; se ha servido
acordar se recomiende al
espresado Juez por conducto
de la Audiencia del
Territorio, segun lo veri=
=fico en el dia de hoy, que
active todo lo posible la
citada causa y de cuenta
á este Gobierno del re-
resultado, obsequiando asi
los deseos del Departamento
de Estado de los Estados
Unidos que se sirve V.S.
trasmitir en su referido
escrito.

Lo que de orden
de S.E, tengo la honra
de participar á V.S. para
su conocimiento.

Dios

Dios gue á V.S.m.t a.l.
Habana, 27 Febrero 1885

(Signed) Francisco Cassá

Sor Consul General de
los Estados Unidos en
esta Capital.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 5 1885
RECEIVED.

No 127. U. S. Consulate General

Havana February 28th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State

Returns and accounts.

Transmitting returns; and accounts for clerk hire and miscellaneous expenses for the quarter ending December 31st 1884

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10 Enclosures.

No 127. U.S. Consulate General

Havana February 28 1885.

Hon: William Hunter

Second Asst Secretary of State,

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith, the following returns and accounts of this Consulate General, for the quarter ending December 31st 1884: viz:

State { No 1 - Digest of invoice book;
" 2 - arrivals and departures of American vessels;

Notes " 3 - record of fees received for notarial services;

Exhibit No. 4: summary of Consular business;

" 5: account for salary paid to Consular Clerk, Mr Joseph A. Springer;

" 6. account for extra clerk hire;

" 7: account for rent and other miscellaneous expenses, with corresponding vouchers;

Exhibit " 8.; statement of fees received for sanitary inspections;

" 9. names of persons employed in this Consulate General;

" 10. list and dates of dispatches to the Department of State;

The amounts of the accounts for;

salary Consular clerk	$ 300—
extra clerk hire	" 400—
	over $ 700—

brot over $ 700 -

and miscellaneous expenses " 773.35

have been debited to the $ 1473.35

United States, in my account

current for salary and fees,

for the past quarter, and with

a remittance this day to the

Assistant Treasurer of the U.S.

at New York, of . . . . $ 690 31

the account appears to be

balanced.

I am, Sir

very respectfully

your Obedient Servant,

James D. Williams

Consul General

ten enclosures.

Inclosure No. 10
With Dispatch No. 127
Havana, February 28 1885

Numbers, dates, and subjects of dispatches, written to the Department of State, by Mr. Ramon O. Williams, from July 24th to December 31st 1884, inclusive.

1884

No. 1. July 24th ——— Accepting appointment as Consul General.

" 2 " 31st ——— Advising intention to sail from New York for Havana August 2nd/84.

" 3 August 12th Arrival at post and taking charge.

" 4 " 13th Nomination of Mr. James A Springer as Vice Commercial Agent at

1884 - at San Juan de los Remedios.

Nº 5 Augt: 16th ——— Transmitting a translation of a telegram sent, by planters merchants, and others, of Matanzas, to Madrid urging negotiation of Treaty with the U. States.

" 6 " 18. ——— Alleged detention of John Hoffman at Havana.

" 7 " 19th ——— Mr Ford ordered to Aspinwall.

" 8 " 21st ——— Political and economical situation of Cuba.

" 9 " " ——— Commercial information asked for by the Madrid Government, of Governor General of Cuba.

" 10 " 26th ——— System of Trade organized by Spain, based upon the sugar market of the United States, with Cuba as a pivotal point.

" 11 " 27 ——— Censuring the dismemberment of resolutions adopted

1884. -adopted by the Havana Board of Trade by the local newspapers regarding the Treaty.

No 12 Augt 27th _____ Commercial and financial decadence in the Island of Cuba.

" 13 " 28th _____ Transmitting translation of an article entitled - "The Closed Market".

" 14. " 29th _____ Economic and social state of Cuba.

" 15 " 30th _____ Straps of mail pouch cut.

" 16 Septr 3d _____ Case of Charles A. Poujaud of Matanzas.

" 17 " " _____ Economic and social state of Cuba.

" 18 " " _____ Same subject.

" 19 " 4th _____ Reporting loss by fire of Amn SS "City of Merida", in the port of Havana.

" 20. " 4th Appointment of Mr James H. Springer as Vice Consl

- Agent at Sn Juan de los Remedios.

No 21 Sept 4th _____ Reporting release of Juan Emilio Nuñez.

" 22 " 5th _____ Receipt of instructions nos 5 and 6.

" 23 " 6th _____ Crew of Amn S.S. "City of Merida" sent home.

" 24 " 10th _____ Transmitting a translation of a Royal order granting same advantages as those conceded the U. States, to Germany. (Agreement of Feby 13/84)

" 25 " 11th _____ Religious meetings held at Matanzas.

" 26 " " _____ Economic and political situation of Cuba.

" 27 " 13th _____ Transmitting controversial articles regarding the treaty.

" 28 " " _____ Present financial condition of sugar planters of Cuba.

" 29 " " _____ Taxation on city property of Matanzas.

" 30 " " ___ Relief to a Swiss citizen.

1884.

No 31. Sept 15th _____ Deplorable condition of the West India sugar trade, and annexation to the U. States, a proposed remedy.

" 32 " 15th _____ Case of Charles A. Poujaud.

" 33 " 15th _____ Return of $500. fine imposed at Cienfuegos on the Am" Brig "Annie & Lily"

" 34. " 16th _____ Corrections of wording of despatch #4 of 26th Aug.t/84. and inclosure #1.

" 35 " 16th. _____ Receipt of circular of Sept.r 3/84.

" 36. " 16th _____ Claim of Cuban Treasury against "Ward Line" of Steamers running to Cienfuegos.

" 37 " 17th _____ Social decomposition in Cuba.

" 38 " 20th _____ Depreciation of public securities in Cuba.

" 39 " 24th _____ Dissolution of the Spanish Army in Cuba.

-1884-

No 40. Sept 24th _____ Telegram sent to Madrid by the principal planters, merchants, and factors of Matanzas urging the treaty.

" 41. " 24th _____ Receipt of Department's circular of 30th July.

" 42 " 24th _____ Claim of Cuban Treasury against the "Ward Line" of Steamers.

" 43 " 26th _____ Claim against British steamers run by E. Atkins & Co., of Boston.

" 44 " 30th _____ Transmitting account of fees for Sanitary Inspection of vessels.

" 45. Oct 1st _____ Receipt of instructions 7 and 8.

" 46. " " _____ Claim against British steamers run by E. Atkins & Co of Boston.

" 47 " 2nd _____ Transmitting bond of Wm Jas: H. Springer,

" 48 " 8th _____ Returns and Accts: for Quarter ending Sept 30/84.

-1884.-

Nº 49. Oct 8th _____ Complaints of the Spanish Army for want of pay.

" 50 " 9th _____ Claims against British steamer run by Elisha Atkins & Co of Boston.

" 51 " 15th _____ Case of Charles A. Poujaud.

" 52 " 15th _____ Claim of Manuel José de Rojas against taxation.

" 53 " 15th _____ Fine of $2000. on Am. Schr. "Louise A. Orr".

" 54 " 15th _____ Pay of Spanish Army in Cuba.

" 55 " 15th _____ Seizure of shooks of Ford & Hight of Balt=more, Md. by customs authorities of Matanzas.

" 56 " 16th _____ Claim against "Ward Line" of Steamers.

" 57 " 16th _____ Receipt of instructions Nº 10 and Nº 11.

" 58 " 17 _____ Claim against

atkins

Atkins & Co's line of Brit: steamers.

N°59. Oct^r 22. _____ Gradual abol=ition of slavery in Cuba

" 60. " 22. _____ Attempted sale of shooks belonging to Lord Right, of Baltimore M^d

" 61 " 22 _____ Claim against "Ward Line" of steamers.

" 62 " 23. _____ Claim against Atkins & Co's British Line of steamers.

" 63. " 23. _____ Receipt of instructions, N^os 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17.

" 64 " 24 _____ Royal order regard translation of manifests.

" 65 " 25 _____ Claim against "Ward Line" of steamers.

" 66 " 25 _____ Advising trans=mission, and confirming a telegram in cypher.

" 67 " 27 _____ Temporary recognition of M^r James H Springer.

1884.

N° 68	Oct^r	28^th	———	Fine of $2000. on Schr: Louise A Orr.
" 69.	Nov^r	1st.	———	Requesting correction in dispatch #31.
" 70.	"	1st	———	Customs Revenues of Cuba.
" 71.	"	4th	———	Receipt of instruction N° 18.
" 72	"	5th	———	Seizure of shooks of Lord & Hight of Baltimore.
" 73	"	7.	———	Receipt of Exequatur.
" 74	"	"	———	Seizure of shook of Lord & Hight at Matanzas - Matter settled.
" 75	"	7	———	Royal order granting France same concessions as granted the United States by agreement of Feby 13th 84.
" 76.	"	7th	———	Violation of same agreement. Duties on 286. Bags Coffee from N York.

1884.—

No 77 Nov^r 10th. _____ Reporting the arrival of new Governor General, Ramon Fajardo.

" 78 " 12th _____ Addresses of Generals Castillo and Fajardo to the inhabitants.

" 79 " 12th _____ Receipt of instruction No 19.

" 80 " 15th _____ Receipt of cypher telegram.

" 81 " 15th _____ Excess of duties collected on 286 bags of coffee from New York.

" 82 " 18th _____ Same subject.

" 83 " 21st _____ Petition of Mr Johnson to load timber at the Isle of Pines, clearing vessels at Nuera Gerona or at nearest port in Cuba

" 84 " 26 _____ Report in obed=ience to circular of August 21st/84.

" 85 " 26th _____ Transmitting U.S. Bonds to Flock & Co of New York.

— 1884.

№ 86	Nov^r	27.	———	Receipt of instructions Nos. 20 and 21.
" 87	"	27	———	Arrest and imprisonment of Cirilo Pouble.
" 88	"	28^th	———	Same subject.
" 89	Dec^r	10^th	———	Receipt of circular instruction of November 26^th /84.
" 90	"	13^th	———	Asking for a map of the United States.
" 91	"	20^th	———	Asking for empty pouches.
" 92	"	22.	———	Advising the transmission of a telegram in cypher.
" 93	"	24^th	———	Receipt of circulars of Nov^r 20^th and Oct 31^st.
" 94	"	26^th.	———	Transmitting a letter from Mr Springer regarding passports.
" 95	"	27^th.	———	Social condition of Cuba.
" 96	"	31^st.	———	Asking for blank forms nº. 120.

(over)

Ninety six despatches.

U. S. Consulate General
Habana, December 31st 1884.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Habana
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General

4th Quarter 1884.

Desp. and dates of
despatches to the
Department.

Cor.

Treasy -

Copy with original enclosures to Treasury Dept. 12 | 85

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1885
RECEIVED.

D.S. Clerk

No 128. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, March 3d 1885.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Transmitting certified copies of invoices, authenticated at this office since October 1884, for shipments of cigars, hence to New York for transportation to Denver, Colorado, consigned to Mr S. M. Simpson and giving a statement of same.

Inclosures:

Six certified copies of invoices.

No. 128. U. S. Consulate General.

Havana, March 3d. 1885

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State.

Washington -
D. C.

Sir:

In obedience to the Department's instruction No. 31 of 14th February, ultimo, the receipt of which I have acknowledged, the 27th ult°, I have now the honor to accompany, herewith, certified copies of the invoices authenticated at this office since the month of October 1884, for the shipments

of cigars, made from this port to New York, and intended for transportation from that city, to Denver, Colorado, to the consignment of S. M. Simpson; as per following statement:

Invoice No.	4239.	Oct 10th/84.	per "City of Puebla."	49,076 cigars	
				Value $1,993.44	
"	" 4446.	" 24th "	" "Romeo."	43,250	"
				" $1,312.56	
"	" 4676.	Nov 4th " 7th "	" "Capulet"	54,750	"
				Value $2,510.23	
"	" 189.	Jany 17th/85	" "	91,925.	"
				" $2426.56	
"	" 305	" 24th "	" "City of Puebla."	17,000	"
				Value $604.56	
"	" 715	Feby 14th "	"City of Alexandria"	109,150	"
	"	"	" "	300 Pkgs cigarrettes.	
	"	"	"	16 lbs cut. tobacco	
	"	"	"	Value $3489.57	

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Ramon O. Williams

Consul-General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 129 U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Mch 4th 1885.

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State.

Sanitary Inspection of
vessels at Havana, Cuba

Transmitting copy of a
letter addressed by the
writer, under this date, to
Dr. D. M. Burgess, the
Sanitary Inspector at
this port, upon the subject.

One inclosure.

No 129.— U. S. Consulate General:
Havana, March 4th 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State,
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
inform you, that in compli=
=ance with your instruction
No. 33, dated the 19th. ultimo,
I have under this date, and
for his government, addressed
a letter enclosing copy of
said instruction to Doctor D.
M. Burgess, the Sanitary
Inspector attached to this

Consulate General, copy of which letter is transmitted herewith.

I have further to inform the Department, that I have included in my account current for Salary and Fees the sum of ——————— $546.— to the credit of the United States as the total amount of sanitary fees collected during the quarter ending the 31st of December, 1884, and have remitted for the same to the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York, under date of the 28th ult°; included in my sight draft of $690.13 for balance due by me

to

to December 31st 1884.

In my next account I shall credit, also, to the Government, the amount of the sanitary fees collected up to the 26th ultimo, since which date, in obedience to your said instruction, the collection of this fee has ceased.

As these sanitary fees have been collected in the absence of law, it has seemed to me best to pay the full amount to the Government, it being respons=
=ible for their return should reclamations be made on it with this object. Also

Also, as the expense connected with the duties of medical inspection have not been disbursed by this office, but by the inspector himself, it would, also, appear reasonable that he should render his accounts direct to the Government, instead of incorporating them with those of the Consul General.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General

Inclosure:

1.— Wm Williams to Dr. Burgess
March 4th 1885.

Inclosure No. 1
With Dispatch No. 129.
Havana, March 4th 1885
Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America.
Havana, March 4th 1885

Dr. D. M. Burgess,
Medical Inspector -
attached to this office -
Present -

Sir:

I, herewith, enclose,
for your information, copy -
of an instruction received
from the Department

of State, dated Washington
19th February, 1885, notify=
=ing this Consulate General,
that it has been decided,
that as the law on which
the fee for the sanitary
inspection of vessels is
based, has expired, hereafter
no fees for such services
shall be exacted: —
Further I am directed
to inform you, as has
already been verbally done,
of this decision: and to
request you to keep an
itemized account of all
expenses connected with
the inspections that you
shall make and transmit

the

the same to the Treasury of the United States, and draw against that — Department for the amount so expended, cautioning you at this point as to the necessity of keeping the expenses at the lowest possible figure.

I would further inform you that as I have remitted to the U. S. Treasury all the — amount of the sanitary inspection fees collected during the last quarter, ending December 31st, 1884, and as I intend to pursue the same course with the

fees collected on the present quarter, I would also inform you that you will have to collect any expenses for boat hire you may now have pending, from the U.S. Treasury.

Be pleased to acknowledge receipt

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

(signed) Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1885
RECEIVED.

Dsb

No. 130. U. S. Consulate General.

Havana, March 5th 1885

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Receipt of instructions.

No. 130. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, March 5th 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State,
Washington
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of
the Department's instructions,
numbers 34, 35, 36, 37, and
38, respectively dated the
25, 26th, 26th, 26th, and 27th of
February ultimo, all of
which have my careful
attention. The books
mentioned in your No. 34

have also been received.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Ramon O. Williams

Consul-General.

Ans'd sending 2 copies sheet 13 & 5

Ans'd sending three copies

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 11 1885
RECEIVED

Dupt claims

No. 131. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, March 5th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Requesting to be furnished with a printed official copy of the Treaty between the United States and Spain, now under consideration.

No 131. — U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, March 5th 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State.

Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I have respectfully to ask that this office be furnished with a printed official copy of the Treaty between the United States and Spain, now under consideration.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul-General

These 2 dispatches, Nos. 132 and 138 from Havana, are ~~the~~ originals, the duplicates of which were called for, and recd by Dept, Apl 9/85.

Congalton.

May 16

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1885
RECEIVED.

See duplicate, a
copy of which was sent
to Treasury Dept. 21-85.

This was delivered in
person & called for
by Mr. St. Clair

No. 132. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, March 7th 1885.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Reporting the destruction by
fire of the American Bark
"Henry Knight" of Camden
Maine, on the 4th instant,
and the rescue of her crew
by the American schooner
"Eddy Hush" of Philadelphia,
Penn:

No. 132 — U.S. Consulate General

Havana, March 4th 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,

Second Assistant

Secretary of State.

Washington —

D. C.

Sir:

Captain Lewis Bartlett, of the American schooner "Eddy Husk, of Philadelphia, arrived at this port yesterday, from Philadelphia, reports that when about twenty-five miles N. N. E. from Salt-Key-Bank, Bahama Groups, Light-House he picked up, and has brought into this port,

three boats and ten men, the whole crew of the American Bark "Henry Knight", of Camden, Maine, J. W. Pendleton, Master, from Pensacola Fla: on the 21st of February last past, and bound to Montivideo, laden with pitch-pine lumber, the said vessel having been totally destroyed by fire, on the 4th of March, instant, caused by the explosion of a kerosene oil lamp in her cabin.

The crew will be provided for, and sent to the United States, at the earliest possible opportunity, which I will report

to

to the Department in due course.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very respectfully.

Your Obedient Servant.

Tamm C. Williams

Consul-General.

This was delayed in transmission & dup. called for. See note thereon

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 16 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 133. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, March 7th 1885.

Wm Williams, to the

Department of State.

Fine imposed upon the American Schooner "James E. Woodhouse", at Nuevitas.

Transmitting the copy of a letter from Mr Joaquin Sanchez Adan, U.S. Consular Agent at the above named port, transmitting three Bills of Lading, containing an exceptional clause.

Four inclosures.

No. 133. — U. S. Consulate General

Havana, March 7th 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State —

Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatches, Nos. 119 and 124, dated respectively the 19th and 25th of February ultimo, and to your instruction No 37 dated the 26th of same, all relating to the fine of the $400.— imposed upon the American schooner "James E. Woodhouse" at Nuevitas,

I now have the honor to enclose, for the information of the Department, the copy of a letter dated the 28th February ultimo, received on the 5th instant from Mr Sanchez Adan, U.S. Consular Agent at that port, enclosing the Bills of Lading of the cargo of said schooner, which you will please observe contain the clause to which I took exception: viz, "Fines, if any, on account of errors in weight, value of contents, to be paid by consignees of goods."

I trust my dispatch No. 124., dated one day prior, and

and agreeing in tenor with your instruction No. 37, will convince the Department, that my letter to the Intendant General of the Treasury of this Island, dated 12th February ultimo, was based upon the belief that the complaint of the "Woodhouse" was entirely founded in good faith, and which I had no reason to doubt, until after the receipt of a copy of the Report or "Expediente" of the Customs authorities of Nuevitas, wherein I first noticed the exceptional clause of the Bill of Lading.

I am, Sir,

Very

Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Canon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosures

1- Mr. Joaquin Sanchez Adanto
Mr Williams, Febuary 28th 1885.

2/4. Three Bills of Lading.

Inclosure No. 1.
With Dispatch No. 133.
Havana, March 7th 1885
Copy.

Consular Agency of the United States.

Nuevitas February 28th 1885.

Ramon O. Williams, Esqre,
Consul General of the U.S.
of America,
Havana.

Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 23d instant, which has received my best attention.

Enclose I beg to hand you copy of your telegram received

on the 23d instant also copy of my answer to same.

Before I sent you the "Expediente" in the case of the schooner "Woodhouse" I knew nothing of the charge made on suspicion of the clause in the Bills of Lading; I called the attention of the consignee who tells me that all his Bills of Lading have this clause printed on them. I enclose two of them for your inspection.

Generally such goods as shooks, heads, hoops and such are not weighed or have been by other collectors, which was done in the case of the "Woodhouse".

As the "Woodhouse" had

finished loading, and was entering on her lay days I advised the consignee to ask the Collector to clear her on his security for the fine of $400., which he did and now await the decision.

There is no doubt that the clause on the Bill of Lading falls back on the consignee, which I sincerely regret because I do not think there was any intention to cheat the Spanish Government but rather a wish of the Collector to make a better salary for himself out of fines imposed.

This same merchant paid $115. on the same vessel, and there is hardly an article,

or vessel either Spanish or
American that has not been fined
in more or less amounts,

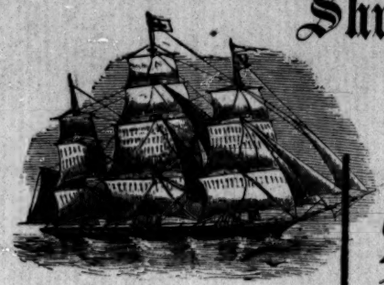
I remain, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

(signed) Joaquin Sanchez Adan
U.S. Consular Agent.

P.S.

I have consulted with
American Captains, now in port,
and they tell me that said clause
is inserted in Bills of Lading.



C. H. Clayton & Co., 157 & 159 Pearl St., N. Y.

Shipped, in good order and condition, by SEIXAS & PARDO,

on board the Sch called the James E Woodhouse whereof

is Master for this voyage, now lying at the

Port of NEW YORK, and bound for Nuevitas To sail

	600	Sixhundred Bags Flour	4509 0
	280	Twohundred & eighty Bbls Flour	2290 0
	40	Forty Tierces Lard	606
	16	Sixteen Cases Lard	1618
	10	Ten Bbls Bacon	3672
	500	Fivehundred Bags Rice	4310 0
	400	Fourhundred Bdls Shooks	
	82	Eightytwo Bdls Heads for sawe	2493 0
	140	Onehundred & forty Bdls Hoops	1120
	200	Twohundred Bbls Potatoes	1431 0
R V	1	One Case Lamps	71
	1	One Case Stands	47
R A	2	Two Cases Drygoods	380
S & P New York	2	Two Iron Safe Doors	434

Fines, if any, on account of errors in Weights, Value or Contents to be paid by Consignees of goods.

Weight & Contents Unknown
Not
Accountable for BREAKAGE, LEAKAGE, or RUST, Goods to be received by Consignees immediately on arrival alongside, within reach of Vesse's Tackles, and Freight payable on Delivery in Cash without Discount.

being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order and condition, at the Port of Nuevitas (the dangers of the seas only excepted,) unto Mr Vicente Rodriguez or to his assigns, he or they paying freight for the said goods as per Charter Party with primage and average accustomed. **In Witness whereof**, the Master or Purser of the said vessel hath affirmed to four Bills of Lading, all of this tenor and date; one of which being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Dated in **NEW YORK**, the 7 day of January 1865

E M Lane

G. F. Nesbitt & Co., Stationers and Printers. N. Y.

This is to Certify that I have received of Pepe Rail Road of Nuevitas - three hundred and seventy two tons of Iron Ore, which I contract to deliver at Nuevitas, Cuba, free of Charges.

A
Nuevitas.

Ferro-Carril de Pto Pfe
y N.

Shipped, in good order and well conditioned, by José Menendez & Brq
on board the Schr called the J. E. Woodhouse
whereof ____ is Master, now lying in the
Port of NEW YORK, and bound for Nuevitas To say: Kilos

(3)	Three	Bbls	Boiler Compound. — 572.
(1)	One	Bale	Cotton Waste. — 197.
(1)	One	Box	Machetes. — 26.
(1)	One	Box	Augers — 26.
(1)	One	Case	} Varnish. — 150.
(1)	One ½	Bbl	
(7)	Seven	Hhds	Coal. — 5759.

Fines, if any, on account of errors in Weights, Value or Contents to be paid by Consignees of goods.

Weight & Contents Unknown
Not
Accountable for BREAKAGE, LEAKAGE, or RUST, Goods to be received by Consignee as imminently on arrival along-side, nothing reach o' Ve so's' Tackles, an Fr. ayable on Delivery in Cash without Discount.

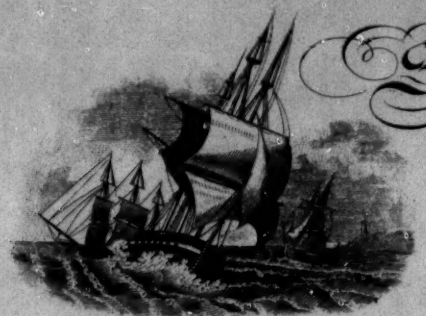
Freight
13460 ℔ a 1/4 ct ℔. $ 33.65
in U. S. Currency or its equivalent

being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order and condition, at the aforesaid Port of Nuevitas (the dangers of the seas only excepted,) unto Order
or to their assigns, he or they paying freight for the said Goods
to Mr Vicente Rodriguez as per margin.

with ____ primage and average accustomed. **In witness whereof,** the Master or Purser of the said vessel hath affirmed to 4 Bills of Lading, all of this tenor and date; one of which being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Dated in NEW YORK, the 7th day of Jany 1885.

E M Sawyer



C.H. Clayton & Co. Stationers 157 & 159 Pearl St. N.Y.

Shipped

in good order and condition by J. A. AGRAMONTE & CO.

on board the Brig called the "Harriet G"

whereof Stanley is master now lying at the port of New York and bound for Nuevitas, Cuba To say

2 Two Cases Printing Type

J. G. L.

Nuevitas.

TO BE RECEIVED

WITHIN REACH OF VESSELS TACKLES

WEIGHT & CONTENTS UNKNOWN. NOT ACCOUNTABLE FOR LEAKAGE, BREAKAGE, RUST, OR FOR LOSS BY FIRE OR COLLISION.

FREIGHT PAYABLE IN SPANISH GOLD.

TO MESSRS HIJOS de SANCHES-DOLZ.

in full $2.50

Any fine imposed on the Vessel through or on account of Shippers

or freighting the same, or

in consequence of Shippers

in their default by neglect

thereof, be paid by

in their default by neglect

being marked and numbered as in the margin and are to be delivered in the like order and condition at the port of Nuevitas, Cuba (the dangers of the seas only excepted) unto Messrs Hijos de Sanchez Dolz. or to their Assigns he or they paying freight for the said Papers

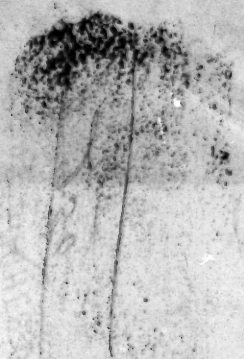
with primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof the master or purser of the said vessel hath affirmed to four Bills of Lading all of this tenor and date one of which being accomplished the others to stand void.

Dated in New York, the 15th day of Janry 1884

L. Y. Stanley

One of which bills being accomplished the others to stand void

Enclosures Nos 1 to 4.
With Dispatch 133
Harana, Mch 7/85



Approved

Ack'd Mch. 21 '85 H. Clair

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 18 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 134. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, March 9th 1884.

Mr. Williams, to the

Department of State.

Wrecked Crew of the American Bark. "Henry Knight" sent to New York per American Steamship "City of Washington, March 7th 1885.

No. 134. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, March 9th 1885

Hon: William Hunter -
Second Assistant Secretary
of State.

Washington
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my No. 132 of
7th instant, relative to the wreck
of the American Bark "Henry
Knight" of Camden, Maine, I have
now the honor to inform you
that the master of said vessel
has recorded his Protest in this
office, and that on the 7th inst:
I sent eight men belonging to the
crew of that vessel to New York

in the American Steamship
"City of Washington", having
provided them with the
necessary clothing wherewith
to make a trip North, at this
season of the year.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Ack'd & ordered
Mch. 21, 85
Dft St Clair

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 18 1885
RECEIVED.

No 135. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, March 9th 1885.

Wm Williams, to the
Department of State.

Application for narrow-lined
despatch paper.

~~76435~~ U.S. Consulate General

Havana, March 9th 1885

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary of
State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:

I have respectfully to ask that a supply of narrow ruled despatch paper be sent me for the use of this office.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Recd. Mch. 23. 85. Dft. Hdqrs

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 18 1885
RECEIVED.

No 136 U.S. Consulate General

Havana March 10th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Transmitting a copy of the protest of E. M. Lavry, master of the American Schooner "James E. Woodhouse", dated Nuevitas February 7th 1885.

No 136. — U.S. Consulate General

Havana, March 10th 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,

Second Assistant Secretary

of State.

Washington.

D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatches Nos. 119, 124, and 133, in relation to the fine of $400. imposed on the American schooner "James E. Woodhouse," at the port of Nuevitas, I now beg to enclose for the information of the Department a copy of the protest of E. N. Lavry, master of said

1.

vessel, made on the 7th of February last before Joaquin Sanchez Adan, Esquire, U.S. Consular Agent at that port.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Inclosure

1- Protest of E. M. Lawry, master of the American schooner "James E. Woodhouse" dated Nueritas February 7th 1885.

Inclosure No. 1.
With Despatch No. 136.
Havana, March 10th 1885.
Copy.

Consular Agency of the
United States.
Nuevitas, February 7th 1885.

On this the seventh
day of February in the year
of our Lord Eighteen hundred
and eighty five, before me
Joaquin Sanchez Adan —
United States Consular Agent
for the City of Nuevitas and
the dependencies thereof,
personally came and —
appeared E. M Lamy, master

of the American Schooner
"James. E. Woodhouse" of
New Haven, and stated that
he sailed in and with said
vessel from the port of New
York, on the 8th day of January
with a full and complete
cargo of merchandise composed
mostly of flour, rice &c., cargo
and vessel consigned to
Vicente Rodriguez, merchant
of this port: that he arrived
at this place on the 28th of
same month, and began to
discharge the next day,
having finished the delivery
of his cargo on the 31st of same
which with what he considered
he had complied with all

the requisites required at
this Custom House, but on the
fifth day of the present month
his consignee stated to him
that the Collector of this Custom
House had imposed a fine on
his vessel to the amount of
Four hundred Dollars for the
difference in weight of the
cargo to what was manifested
by the merchant loading
his vessel in New York. To
which he cannot abide or pay
such fine as by his Bills of
Lading he is not responsible
for weight and contents of
articles shipped on board of
his vessel, and he therefore
wishes to enter, this protest

against such fine being paid by him or in any way by his vessel and therefore protests as many times as necessary to avail him hereafter if needed.

(signed) E. M Lanry, Master.

Attested

(signed) Joaquin Sanchez Adan.

U. S. Consular Agent.

U.S. Consular Agency

at Nuevitas.

I, Joaquin Sanchez Adan United States Consular Agent

Agent for the City of Nuevitas, Island of Cuba, and the dependencies thereof do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of protest now on file in this Consular office as entered by E. M. Lavry master of the American schooner "James E. Woodhouse" now in port.

In testimony whereof I hereby affix my seal of office and sign my name on this the seventh day of February 1885.

L. S.

(signed) Joaquin Sanchez Adan.
U. S. Consular Agent.

Sent

Ackd Sent
Aug. 21 '85 Dft St Clair

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 18 1885
RECEIVED.

No 137. U. S. Consulate General

Havana, March 11th 1885

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State.

Requisition for six copies of the Act of Congress of June 26th ult. for the suppression of certain consular fees, and of the Department's Circular of 30th July 1884 accompanying same.-

~~No 37.~~ U.S. Consulate General

Havana, March 11th 1885.

Hon William Hunter.

Second Assistant

Secretary of State.

Washington.

D.C

Sir:

Mr. José H. Beola U.S. Consular Agent at Gibara, informs me that he has not been officially advised of the suspression of certain consular fees, provided for by Act of Congress of June 26th ult^o and accompanying the Department's circular of

July 31st 1884. I have, therefore, respectfully to ask to be furnished with six copies of the Act, and of the Circular, referred to, for transmission hereafter to such of the Consular Officers of this Island as may not have received them.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Dft H Clair

Ack'd Mch. 23 - 85

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 20 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 138. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, March 13th 1884

Mr Williams, to the

Department of State

Reporting the receipt of instructions Nos 39 and 40, of 5th March /85.

No 138. U. S. Consulate General

Havana, March 13th 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary of
State.

Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instructions, numbers 39 and 40, both dated the 5th instant, the contents of which have my careful attention.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,

Lamar O. Williams
Consul-General.

Cor

F.W.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 26 1885
RECEIVED

No 139. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Mch 18th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Trial of Mr Cirilo Pouble, a citizen of the United States, whose arrest and imprisonment was reported to the Department November 27th 1884 in dispatch No 87.

No. 139. U. S. Consulate General
Habana, March 18th, 1885.

Hon: William Hunter
Second Assistant Secretary
of State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch No. 87, and series, relating to the arrest of Mr Cirilo Pouble, I have now the honor to report for the information, of the Department, that having called this morning upon His Honor, Judge Godoy of the Court of the Cathedral District, he informed me that having received the Certificate of the death of Carlos Aguero, he had concluded yesterday the Sumario of Pouble's case, and that if it had not already been forwarded to the Promotor Fiscal,

or

Prosecuting Attorney, it will be sent to him to-day.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant

Ramon O. Williams
Consul-General.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 26 1885
RECEIVED.

D'H Clair
Ans & Mch. 27. '85

No. 140 U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Mch 19th 1885

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1885

Ans not need instructed about to leave.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Report regarding the status and mercantile operations of Mr Fernando B. Hamel, a citizen of the United States, and merchant of Havana, in obedience to the Department's instruction No. 35 of February 26th ult.

Transmitting seven inclosures giving the desired testimony in the case.

No. 140. U.S. Consulate General

Havana, March 19th 1885.

Hons William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary of
State.

Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to your instruction No 35 dated the 26th ultimo, receipt of which was acknowledged the 5th inst, the same relating to the protest of Mr. Fernando B. Hamel against the collection of import duties at Barcelona on shipments of old iron from Havana, I have now the honor, for the purpose of demonstrating to the Department the good faith of this transaction on the part of Mr Hamel, to accompany the following documentary evidence.

First:

First:- Enclosure Nº1., is a certificate signed by me, of the fact of Mr Hamel being inscribed in the Register of American citizens kept in this office, from which it appears that he is a native of Louisiana, and was inscribed in said register on or about the 4th of January 1871, in accordance with a general order from the Government of the Island requiring all foreigners to register at their respective Consulates.

Second, and marked nº2, is a copy with translation, of the personal "cedula, defining his citizenship on the part of the authorities of Navana, issued by Dn Florencio Garcia, Alcalde of the Dragones District of this city, dated October 4th 1884, corroborating the preceding

certificate

certificate from this office of his American citizenship.

Third, and marked No. 3, is the sworn statement of Wm. Hamel, showing the place of his establishment to be at No. 311, calzada de San Lazaro, in this city.

Fourth, and numbered 4, is the certificate, with its accompanying translation, issued under date of the 11th instant by Dr. Antonio C. Abudo, Inspector and Auditor of the Customs of Harana, declaring that upon examination of the record books of importations of the Harana Custom House, that there does not appear ever to have been imported either from Spain or elsewhere, any old iron,

rope, or old metal, otherwise than some pig-iron, which may have come, as ballast, into this port.

Fifth, and marked N° 5, is a certificate signed by twenty-four different persons, such as Rail-Road Superintendants, Foundry owners, Steamship owners, and hard-ware dealers, all declaring that they have sold to Mr Hamel old iron, copper, brass and other old metals, during the last ten years.

Sixth, and numbered 6, is the statement of Mr Hamel, found to be correct with the books of this Consulate General, showing the Invoices of shipments made to the United States since December

1st

1st, 1882, to December 11th, 1884, the object of this document being to show that he is an exporter, and not an importer of junk goods to the United States. Accompanying this enclosure is an advert=isement of Mr Hamel's establishment taken from the Havana City Directory.

In addition to the foregoing documentary evidence, I beg to inform the Department that, at the request of Mr Hamel, I visited his place of business, as described in the preceding advertisement, on Friday the 13th instant. I found it much more extensive than the enclosed print would indicate on first view, there being several large

yards

yards attached, where the
junk gathered daily through-
=out the city by eight carts
kept for this purpose, and
the many rag-pickers is
dumped, picked, and
separated for the several
apartments used for assort-
=ment. There there were
scales for weighing, and
apparatus for breaking up the
pieces of metal. There
were separate rooms for the
deposit of old metals, bones,
hoofs, horns and glue stock,
and other rooms with packing
and pressing machines to reduce
the bulk of all scraps metals,
rags, glue-stock, and bones to
proper shipping conditions.

He further requested
me to examine his books of
daily purchases and sales;
to witness the different manual
occupations of the establishment,

which

which I did. In
this visit of examination
I spent over one hour, and
every thing witnessed or
inspected by me only —
confirms me in the belief
that all of Mr. Hamel's
statements in the premises,
are clearly and unequivocally
based on good faith.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosures.
1/7. — As before stated.

PRINTED
1885

Enclosure No 1 -
With Dispatch 140 -
Havana March 19th 1885 -

U. S. Consulate General
Havana March 18th 1885

I, the undersigned Consul General of the United States of America, at Havana do hereby certify that Mr Fernando B. Hamel was registered in the Register of Citizens, kept in this office, on or about the 4th January 1871 as follows:

No 94. Fernando B. Hamel. age 33 years - born in Louisiana; married: merchant: 14 years in Cuba; residing Industria St. No 164: Junk Store, Marquez Gonzalez St No 2.

Witness my hand and official seal this 18th March 1885

Fanny O. Williams
Consul General.

(stamps (adhesive $3.12½)

Cedula Personal. No 75.
Extranjeros domiciliados
Año de 1884-85 No 7744

Tercera Clase. Habana. Termino idem.
idem Barrio Dragones.

Señas Generales
Edad 45 años
Estatura - Alta
Color bueno
Barba - cerrada
Particulares
No 1193.

A favor de Don Fernando B. Hamel y Nathan; natural de Estados Unidos; de estado casado profesion comercio, vive calle de Reina No 118.

El interesado Habana 14 de Octubre 1884
F. B. Hamel Ante mi Alcalde Florencio Garcia

Cuaderno No 2 -
Mun. Depositado en el Archivo
Cuaderno No 140 -
Habana Marzo 19 de 1885.

Conforme.

PRINTED 1885

PRINTED
FOREIGN MISSIONS
1885

Translation

Personal Cedula
for Domiciled foreigners - Folio 75
Year 1884-85. No 774.
Province Havana. District de
Dragones Ward.

In favor of Don Fernando P. Hamel y Nathan, native of United States; married; occupation, commerce; and resides Reina 81 to 108 ——

Havana Oct 14 1884.

The Alcalde. Florencio Garcia.

Description

Age 45 years -
Stature, Tall -
Complexion - good
Beard - close -
Particular marks
No 84 - No 1193 -

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1885

Enclosure No 3—
With Dispatch No 140—
Havana March 19th 1885.

Copy.

Havana March 18 1885.

Ramon O. Williams Esqr
Consul General of the United
States of America, at
Havana.

Sir:

In reply to your several questions, I have to state: that at my store No 311, Calzada de San Lazaro there is a daily purchase at wholesale and retail of all kinds of goods embraced in the business of a junk store, such as old iron, metals, rope, canvas, rags, hoops, horns, glue stock &c. and that at the office of Henry B. Hamel & Co No 8 Mercaderes St, I purchase during certain hours of the

day, goods of the above kind
from planters, hardware dealers
and others, all to be delivered
at the before mentioned store;
that I have never imported
any of the above kind of
goods from any foreign
country; and further that
no one else has done so up
to this day, as stated in the
accompanying Custom House
certificate; that I purchase
such materials from Rail Road
Companies, foundries, planters
hardware stores, and others, is
proved by the accompanying
certificate, signed by a number
of parties representing such
interests; and that instead
of ever importing any of
said goods, I at all times
export them, and refer to the
invoices that I have had
authenticated at your office
for said shipments, according

to the accompanying list.

Very respectfully.

(signed) Fernando B. Hamel

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 12th day of March 1885.

(signed) Ramon O. Williams

Consul General

SELLO 11º Año 1884 Y 85

37½ C. DE PESO

N. 0701212

EFECTOS TIMBRADOS DEL 1er DISTRITO

PRINTED 1885

Enclosure No 4—
with Despatch No 140
Havana March 19th 1885—

Don Antonio Abudo Jefe de Navegación por
mayor Clase Inspector de esta Aduana, Contador
de la Aduana mismo por Sustitucion Reglamento

Certifico: que segun consta de los antecedentes en esta Seccion, por exámen practicado en los libros de Manifiestos correspondientes á la misma, no aparece de ninguno haber sido importadas de la Península, ni de Extranjeria, Jarcia, ni muebles viejos, ni especies de los Grupos del primero y 6º en calidad de efectos conducidos de bordo de Buques de travesia, y que en tal virtud descargan cuando les es necesario, declarándolos y abonando los derechos correspondientes.— Y á peticion de las Señores Jerauld & Hamel de este Comercio para cumplimentar donde les convenga, expido el presente en la Habana á veinte de Marzo de mil ochocientos ochenta y cinco.

Antonio Abudo

Conforme

Consulado—

-General of the United States
Havana

I, the undersigned, Consul General of the United States at Havana, do hereby certify that Antonio Abreds, whose signature appears to the foregoing Custom House certificate, to which is affixed the seal of the Havana Custom House, and countersignature of Fernandez, Collector, is the Contador & auditor of Customs for this port, the proper officer to issue such certificates, and that in my opinion, his statements are entitled to full faith and credit -

Given under my hand and official seal at Havana this 12th March 1885 -

James D. Williams
Consul General

Translation.

Don Antonio Abudo, Chief of Bureau of First class, Inspector of Customs, and Auditor.

Do hereby certify, that as appears from the antecedents in this Custom House, after an examination made in the Importation books of the same, there does not appear ever to have been imported either from Spain nor elsewhere, any old iron, rope, or old metal, with the exception of pig iron, which may have been brought in bars as ballast by the vessels of various nations, and which have been landed as such when necessary, declaring the same, and paying the duties corresponding thereto.

At the request of Fernando B. Hamel, of this Commerce, I issue this document in testimony thereof at Havana March 11th 1885—

(seal) (signed) Ant° Abudo

2

Enclosure No 5—
With Dispatch No 140-
Habana March 19th 1885.

Los infrascritos certificamos que durante los ultimos diez años hemos vendido al Sor Dn Fernando B. Hamel. dueño del establecimiento de traperia situado en la Calzada de Sn Lazaro nº 311, hierro. cobre y metales viejos.

Y á pedimento del interesado firmamos el presente en la Habana á seis de Marzo de mil ochocientos ochenta y cinco. Y Marina y Cagigal

+ Como Admor de la Compª del F.C. de la Habana desde el año de 1874 al 1878.
Manl L. Izquierdo

x Como exadmr del Fc de la Habana desde 1870 á 1882 y Admor del F.C. del Oeste
J. Calvo

x José Maduro

R Nicolas Alvarez

Urquiola Diaz y C

Cuba Aduña del Jesus
Castro Fernandez y Cª

Albelda y Lastra

× Presa y Torre

× Ramon de Herrera
pp Ramon de Herrera

× Domingo Moncal
José Muñiz

Rodriguez

Gabl. Ramos

Antonio Perramon

× Antonio Fernandez y Cª

Luis Alum

× Dominguez y Galan

Consulate —

PRINTED
1885

— General of the United States
Havana March 12/1885

I, the undersigned
Consul General of the United
States at Havana, do hereby
certify that the signatures to
the foregoing document are the
true and genuine signatures
of Messrs Marnia y Cagigal;
hardware dealers; Manuel L
Izquierdo, Superintendent Havana
R. R. 1874 to 1878; J. N. Odoardo, Supt
of Bay R.R. 1870 to 1882. and Supt
of Western R.R.; J. Ealo. Supt Genl
of the Havana R. R.; Tejero Bros y Co
Hardware dealers; Jose Madurell,
Foundryman; Nicolas Alvarez,
Urquiola Diaz & Co, Uribarri
Goase & Co, hardware importers
and dealers; Antº Blanco Supt
of the Bay R.R.; Castro Fernandez
& Co; Alberdi y Lastra; Presa y
Sons; hardware dealers; Ramon
de Herrera, steamships owner, —
Domingo Abascal; Rodriguez & Co —

Gabriel Ramos, Prieto & Co
Alvarez & Co.; Astobiza Alonzo & Co
Narciso Penamos, Luis Alonso
Dominguez y Galan; hardware
dealers and importers, and
Van Deventer & Co. foundry; - I
further certify, that the fore
going signatures were ac-
knowledged in presence of
the U.S. Consular Clerk, at this
place, whom I delegated to
call at the place of business
of each subscriber for that
purpose, and that, in my
opinion the statements by
them subscribed, are entitled
to full faith and credit.

Given under my
hand and official seal at
Havana this 12th March
1885 —

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General

Jos. L. Springer
U.S. Consular Clerk

Translation

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify, that during the last ten years, we have sold to Mr Fernando B. Hamel, owner of the junk store, Calzada San Lazaro 311, old iron, copper and metals.

And at the request of the party concerned, we hereunto subscribe our names at Havana this 6 March 1885.

(signatures follow)

Enclosure No 6 ½
With Dispatch No 140-
Havana March 19th 1885.

Copy:

{Seal of Henry B. Hamel & Co
Ship agents. Mercaderes No 2
Havana.}

List of Invoices.

date		vessel	destination.
1882. Decr 1.	Stmr	City of Puebla	New York
1883 Jany 16	Bk	Eva H. Fisk	Phila
" " 19	"	do	"
" Mar 17	Stm	City of Puebla	New York
" " 31	"	City of Washington	"
" May 5	"	do	"
" June 16	"	City of Merida	"
" " 23	"	British Empire	"
" July 13	Bk	Julia Blake	Phila
" Sept 15	"	Ada Carter	"
" Octr 6	Stm	City of Merida	New York
" " 17	"	Saratoga	"
" Novr 24	Brig	A.G. Jewett	Phila
1884 March 13	Bk	Conquest	"
" " 23	"	"	"
" July 20	Stm	Ramon Herrera	New York

1884	May	23	Bk	Eugenia	Phila
"	July	12	Stm	Ramon Herrera	New York
"	Aug	20	"	Newport	"
"	Oct	4	"	Ramon Herrera	"
"	"	4	"	"	"
"	"	17	Bk	& Co Garguilo	Phila
"	"	29	"	"	"
"	Nov	20	Stm	Newport	New York
"	"	"	"	"	"
"	"	27	"	Saratoga	"
"	Dec	11	Bark	Darung	Phila

(Signed) F. B. Hamel.

Enclosure No 7
with Dispatch No 140
Havana March 19th 1885.

From "Directory" HABANA.

ADERS Y COMPAÑIA,

10 MERCADERES 10

Habana.

COMERCIANTES É IMPORTADORES DE

QUINCALLA, JUGUETES Y SEDERIA.

Surtido General de Baratillo al por mayor y de la renombrada

CERVEZA "SALVATOR."

ADERS Y CA. **Mercaderes 10**

Efectos de Optica

AL POR MAYOR Y MENOR,

Gemelos de Teatro, Campo y Marina, Miscroscopios ampolletas y Vistas Estereoscopicas.

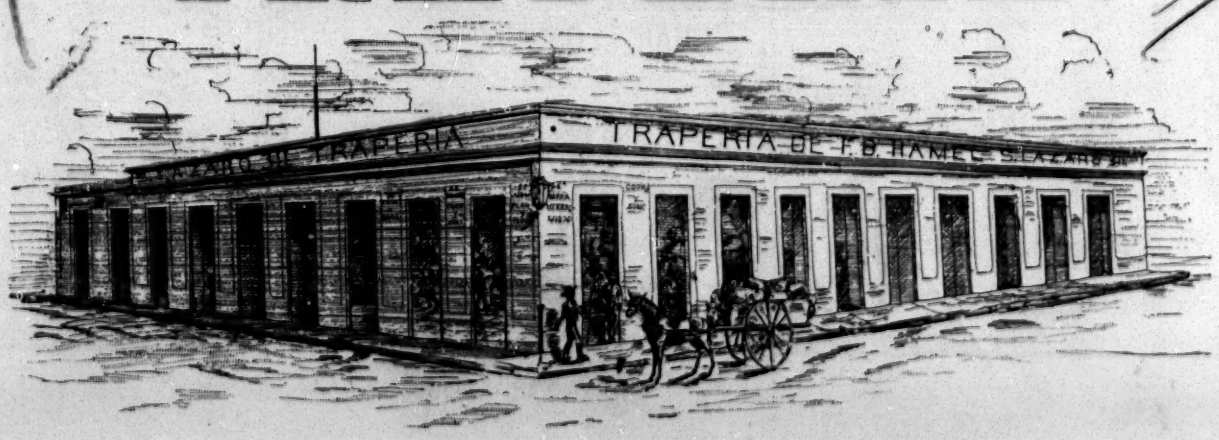
Gran surtido en Espejulos y Lentes de todas clases.

Piedras del Brasil Lejítimas.

Barómetros y Termómetros.

SURTIDO GENERAL DE INSTRUMENTOS. **MEDICOS Y DE CIRUGIA.**

TRAPERIA.



TRAPERIA

—DE—

F. B. HAMEL,

CALZADA S. LAZARO, No. 311 ESQUINA HOSPITAL.

Se compra y vende Cobre, Bronce, Metal, Estaño, Plomo, Hierro dulce y fundido, Huesos, Canillas, Tarros, Pezuñas, Carnaza, Goma, Trapos de todas clases, Papel viejo, Zinc, pagando los precios mas altos de plaza y por grandes que sean las partidas al contado.

Apartado, No. 225. Telégrafo, Hamel.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 26 1885
RECEIVED.

File

No 141. U. S. Consulate General.
Havana, March 20th, 1885.

Mr. Williams, to the
Department of State

Case of Mr. Cirilo Pouble.

Transmitting copy and translation of a communication received from the General Government of this island dated the 19th Mch/85 regarding the trial of Mr. Pouble.

One inclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 26 1885
RECEIVED.

File

No 141. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, March 20th, 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State

Case of Mr Cirilo Pouble.

Transmitting copy and translation of a communication received from the General Government of this island dated the 19th Mch/85 regarding the trial of Mr Pouble.

One inclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 26 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 141. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, March 20th 1885

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary of
State.
Washington.
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, for the information of the Department, the copy and translation of a communication received yesterday from the General Government of this Island, regarding the trial of Mr Cirilo Pouble.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosure.
1- as above.

Inclosure No. 1.
With Dispatch No. 141.
Havana, March 20th 1885.
Translation.

General Government
of the Island of Cuba.
Office of the Secretary.
Political Bureau.

The Honorable, the President of the Supreme Court of this jurisdiction, in a communication dated the 17th instant states to His Excellency the Governor General the follow=ing:

"Excellency:

In reply to Y.E's attentive communication of 24th February ultimo, transmitting another from the Consul General

of

of the United States at this Capital, relative to the case of the American citizen Mr Emilio Pouble Allende; I have the honor to state that information having been asked for of the Judge Commissioned in the said cause, he has replied advising me that the same was under process of preparation (en sumaria) pending the hearing of an appeal interposed by the defendant of the accused Pouble, regarding the sentence of incarceration issued by the Judge aforesaid. In view of which, I have ordered that the hearing be brought before the High Criminal Court to which the said appeal pertains."

Which I have the honor to transmit to Y. A. for your information.

God guard you many years

Havana, 19th March 1885.

Franco Cassá.

To

To the Consul General of the United States at this Capital.

Copy.— Gobierno General de la Isla de Cuba.
Secretaria. Politica.

El Ylsmo Sor Presidente de la Audiencia de este Territorio, en comunicacion de 17 del actual, dice al Excmo Sor Gobernador General lo que sigue:

"Excmo Sor. = En contestacion á la atenta comunicacion de V.E. de 24 de Febrero ultimo, trasladando otra del Sor Consul general de los Estados Unidos en esta capital relativa al ciudadano Americano Mr Cirilo Pouble Allende; tengo la honra de significar á V.E. que pedido informe al Juez comisionado de la causa lo ha evacuado manifestando hallarse esta en sumario, pendiente de la apelacion interpuesta por

la representacion del procesado Pouble del auto sobre encarcel=
=acion dictada por dicho Juez.

Y en su vista he dispuesto pasar dichos antecedentes á la Sala de lo criminal donde radica la espresada apelacion."

Lo que tengo la honra de trasladar á VS para su debido conocimiento.

Dios gue á VS m.s a.s
Habana, 19 de Marzo de 1885
Franc.o Cassá

Sor Cónsul general de los Estados Unidos en esta Capital.

From Adam Badeau
late Con Gen. at Havana.

Newport March 22, 1885.

— " —

Complains of treatment he received at the hands of the late administration, in the matter of his accounts, and charges against Consular Clerk Springer.

— " —

Bound in the for part of Vol. 96. Desps. fr. Havana.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 1 1885
RECEIVED

No. 142. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, Mch 24th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Receipt of instruction No.
41. dated March 7th 1885.

Complaint of Mr Manuel
José de Rojas.

No. 142. U. S. Consulate General
Havana, March 24, 1885.

Hon William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State,
Washington,
D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor
to acknowledge the receipt
of your instruction No 41
of 7th instant, enclosing a
copy of dispatch no 304,
addressed to the Depart-
-ment by Mr Dwight T.
Reed, Chargé d'Affaires at
Madrid, in reference to the
complaint of Mr Manuel
José de Rojas of this city.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Ramon O. Williams
Consul-General

Cou

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 1 1885
RECEIVED.

No 143. U. S. Consulate General
Havana, Mch 24th 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Fine of $400. - imposed,
by the Customs authorities
of Nuevitas, upon the
American schooner "James
E. Woodhouse":

Acknowledging receipt
of instruction No 42 in
reference to the same
subject.

No. 143. U.S. Consulate General,
Havana, March 24 1885

Hon William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State,
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
acknowledge receipt of your
instruction No. 42, dated
the 9th instant in reference
to the fine of $400.- imposed
by the Customs authorities of
Nuevitas upon the American
schooner "James E. Woodhouse,"
due note of which is taken
for my government in
the matter.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
Fanny D. Williams
Consul General.

Consular

Sent Act

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 1 1885
RECEIVED

Dft clair

Ans'd & sent Apr. 9-85

No 1764. U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, March 24 1885.

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Certificate issued by Mr
Joaquin Sanchez Adam
U.S. Consular Agent at
Nuevitas stating that the
American schooner "Nancy
Smith" of New York had left
that port, the master neglect=
=ing to pay consular fees.

Acknowledging receipt of
instruction No 43 in reference
to the subject.

No 144. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, March 24th 1885

Hon: William Hunter
Second Assistant Secretary
of State -
Washington.
D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to
acknowledge receipt of the
Department's instruction
No 143 - dated the 11th inst:
enclosing the copy of a
letter from the Secretary
of the Treasury, calling
attention to the certificate
issued by Mr Joaquin
Sanchez Adan, Consular
agent at Nuevitas, stating
that the American schooner
"Nancy Smith", of New
York, had sailed thence
without paying consular
fees.

In

In answer I have to say, that under date of the 18th instant, I have invited the attention of Mr Sanchez to the matter, and asked for an explanation, which as soon as received will be transmitted to the Department.

It would appear from this certificate, that Mr Sanchez, has not received a copy of the act of June 26th 1884, which abolishes all consular fees against American vessels; and as there is only one copy of it in this office, which is in constant use, I would now respectfully ask that you be pleased to order one to be sent to Mr Sanchez.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Ramon O. Williams

Consul General.

Con

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 1 1885
RECEIVED.

No 145 U.S. Consulate General.
Havana, March 24. 1885

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State.

Acknowledging receipt of
Circulars, dated the 2nd
and 18th of February 1885.

No. 145. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, March 24th 1886.

Hon. William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I have received the Department's circulars of 2d and 18th February ultimo, which have my careful attention. Printed copies of the former, regarding the "adjustment of accounts of Consular Agents," have been forwarded to the agents at Nuevitas and Gibara.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant
Fannie D. Williams
Consul General.

Sent Circular

Ans'd. Apl. 9. '85.

Dft. H Clair

No. 146. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, March 28th 1885

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 4 1885
RECEIVED.

Wm Williams, to the
Department of State.

Reporting the non-receipt of the Department's circular letter of March 7th 1885 announcing the appointment of the Honorable Thomas F. Bayard, as Secretary of State.

No 146. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, March 28th 1885

Hon William Hunter
Second Assistant Secret=
=ary of State.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I have this day received open, and transmit, Mr William P. Pierce's dispatch to the Department No 134, dated at Cienfuegos the 26th instant, in which he acknowledges the receipt of circular letter of March 7th 1885, officially announcing the appointment of the Honorable Thomas F. Bayard as Secretary of State.

I beg respectfully to state that this is the first official notice received

at this office in reference thereto.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul General.

ou

satisfactory
Treasury.

Asked telegraphic to Treasury Apr. 9. 85

Dr Holcombe

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 4 1885
RECEIVED.

No 147. U. S. Consulate General.
Havana, March 28th 1885.

Mr Williams to the
Department of State.

Transmitting the copy of a letter from Mr. Joaquin Sanchez Adan, U. S. Consular Agent at Nuevitas.

One inclosure.

No 147.- U.S. Consulate General
Havana, March 28th 1885.

Hon William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State,
Washington,
D.C.

Sir:

Referring to my dispatch No. 144 of 24th instant, I have now the honor to enclose for the information of the Department the copy of a letter received from Mr Sanchez Adan, Consular Agent at Nuevitas, dated the 23d inst, in explanation of his reason for giving the master of the American Schooner "Nancy Smith" of New York a certificate to the effect that the said vessel left the port referred

to, without paying consular fees, and stating that he had not received a copy of the act of June 26th 1884.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.

Ramon O. Williams
Consul-General.

Inclosure.
1- Mr Sanchez Adan to Mr Williams - March 23d 1885.

Inclosure N°1
With Dispatch N°. 144.
Havana, March 28th 1885
Copy.

Consular Agency of
the United States.
Nuevitas, March 23d 1885.

Ramon O. Williams, Esqre.
Consul General of the
United States of America,
Havana.

Sir:

I am in receipt
of your letters dated
17th and 18th inst: both of
which have received my

best attention.

I will act in conformity with paragraphs 490 and 492 of the Consular Regulations as required by the Fifth Auditor.

I have received no instruction whatever in regard to the Act passed June 26th 1884.

Captains of vessels would refer to it, but not one of them were able to give me any information whatever, therefore, on their statement I have given them a certificate to the effect that they had not paid any

fee

fee on clearing from this Consular Agency.

The fees mentioned for the "Nancy Smith" were - #4.20 for tonnage, at the rate of one cent per ton and #2.50 for Bill of Health.

I remain, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant:

(signed) Joaqn. Sanchez Adan.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 7 1885
RECEIVED.

To Madrid 8 July 85 J. H. Clair

Ack & t wrote to Hill & Blume. 9 pp. 18

No. 148. U.S. Consulate General.

Havana, March 31st 1885

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack & approve-
APR 13 1885

Mr Williams, to the
Department of State

Reporting the fine of $500. imposed upon the Master of the American Schooner "Ethel A. Merritt" of Wellfleet, Mass, by the Customs authorities of the port of Baracoa, Cuba.

Two inclosures.

No 148. U.S. Consulate General
Havana, March 31st 1885.

Hon: William Hunter,
Second Assistant Secretary
of State.

Washington
D.C.

Sir:

I beg to inform the Department of having received a communication from the United States Commercial Agent at Baracoa, in this island, dated the 20th inst: informing me of the imposition of a fine of $500. upon the American schooner "Ethel A Merritt" of Wellfleet, Mass: for having failed to obtain the seals and signatures of the administrative or local Authorities of the port of Caruspano,

belonging to the Republic of Venezuela, on her departure therefrom on the 7th instant, for Baracoa en route for New York, and in accordance with the requirements of Section 2, Art. 26, of the Customs Laws of this Island.

In his same letter the Commercial Agent, also enclosed the protest of the Master, Geo V. Williams.

Immediately upon receipt of this advise, I called upon His Excellency, the Governor General, to give him verbal information of the occurrence, and again, yesterday, I addressed him a written communication upon the subject, asking for the rescindment of the fine, and the cancellation of the bond given by the Master

to

to the Collector of Baracoa.

Copies of this communication, and of the Master's protest are herewith enclosed for the information of the Department. 1/2

This case is so similar to those of the American schooners "Oretta", and "Richmond, which occurred at the same port in July, 1881, as reported by Consul General Hall, to the Department, in his dispatch Nº 1032 of 16th August 1881., that to my view it would seem only reasonable it should be settled in accordance with the same ruling observed then; viz, by rescindment, and as you will observe, I have asked of the Governor General.

I

I have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant.
James S. Williams
Consul General.

Inclosures.

1- Mr Williams to the Governor General. Mch: 30th 1885

2. Protest of George V. Williams Master of the American Schr "Ethel A. Merritt," Mch 13th/85.

Inclosure Nº 1-
With Dispatch Nº 148-
Havana, March 31st 1881.
Copy.

Consulate General of the
United States of America.
Havana, March 30th 1885

To His Excellency,
The Governor General,
of this Island.
&c &c &c

Excellency:

With reference
to the conversation held
with you on the 27th instant
in relation to the fine of
$500. imposed upon

the American schooner "Ethel A. Merritt" by the Customs authorities at Barcaoa, I have now the honor to present the case formally and officially to Your Excellency's attention with the view of asking for the complete rescindment of the fine.

The facts are as follows: the said schooner left the port of Carupano in the Republic of Venezuela on the 7th day of the present month of March, laden with ballast, and 140 Bags of Cacao for New York, and arrived

<u>en route</u> at Baracoa, in
this Island, on the 13th
of the same month, at
which latter port she
was to complete her cargo
with fruits for New York.

On departing from
the said port of Carupano,
the Captain took great
care to secure from the
Customs authorities, and
from the United States
Consular Agent there,
all papers, which, as far
as his knowledge extended,
were required for his
proper entrance to the
ports of Baracoa, <u>en route</u>,
and New York, as

destination. But on
arriving at Baracoa he
was informed by the
Spanish customs author=
=ities that in consequence
of not having had his
manifest visaéd by the
administrative authorities
of Carupano, in the
absence of an appointed
Spanish Consul at that
port, a fine of $500.
would be, and was
imposed upon him by
the Collector of the port
of Baracoa; Therefore,
the Captain has been
compelled to give bond
for its security pending
investigation

investigation, and final decision: and against which he has extended his formal protest before the United States Commercial Agent at Baracoa, under date of the 13th instant.

Happily for the examination and discussion of this case, there already exist, as precedents, two other cases quite identical in nature with the present one, both of which, also, occurred at the same port of Baracoa, and were afterwards remitted

by the Superior Authority of the Island. The first of these was that of the American schooner "Oretta", arrived at Baracoa from the island of Antigua, in ballast, the 8th of July 1881, and the second that of the American schooner "Richmond" arrived at the same port, also in ballast, the 14th of same month and year from the island of Inagua. In both cases a fine of $500. was imposed by the Customs Authorities of Baracoa; because

the Captains had not had their manifests visaed by the administrat=
=ive authorities of the ports of their departure, in the absence of an appointed Spanish Consul.

Both cases were then presented by this Consulate General to His Excellency the Governor General of the Island, whose authority at the time was exercised by General Don Ramon Blanco, and both were opportunely settled by rescindment.

The

The circumstances of this case being identical, I am led to ask that the present question be granted similar solution, and the bond given by the Captain to the Collector of Baracoa, be ordered by Your Excellency to be cancelled.

I have the honor to be,
very respectfully
Y. E's Most Obedient Servant.

(signed) Ramon O. Williams.
Consul General.

Inclosure Nº 2
With Dispatch Nº 148.
Havana, March 31st 1885.
Copy

Marine Extended Protest
of Ship "Ethel A. Merritt",
G. Williams, Master.
March 13th 1885.

Consulate of the United States
of America.
Port of Baracoa-
March 13th of 1885.

By this public instrument
of declaration and protest
be it known and made mani-
-fest unto all to whom these
presents shall come or may
concern that on the 13th day
of March one thousand
eight hundred and eighty-

fire, before me Datus E. Coon,
Consul of the United States
of America for Baracoa,
and the dependencies thereof,
personally came and appeared
George W. Williams, Master
of the ship or vessel called
the "Ethel A. Merritt" of
Wellfleet of the burden of
131.05 tons or thereabouts,
then lying in this Port of
Baracoa, laden with
ballast & 140 bags of cacao
cargo, in transit for New York
, who duly noted and entered
with me, the said Consul,
his protest, for the uses
and purposes hereafter
mentioned; and now, on
this day, to wit, the day
of the date hereof, before
me, the said Consul, again
comes the said George
W. Williams, and requires
me to extend this protest,

and together with the said
also come
mate,
Carpenter, and

seamen of, and belonging to the said Ship, all of whom, being by me duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, did severally voluntarily, freely, and solemnly declare, depose, and state as follows, that is to say;

That these appearers, on the Seventh day of March, in their capacities aforesaid, sailed in and with the said "Ethel A. Merritt", from the Port of Carupano, laden with ballast & 140 bags cacao for New York, and bound to the Port of Baracoa, that the said Ship was then tight,

stanch, and strong; had
her cargo well and
sufficiently stowed and
secured; had her hatches
well caked and covered;
was well and sufficiently
manned, victualed, and
furnished with all things
needful and necessary
for a vessel in the merchant
service, and particularly
for the voyage she was
about to undertake; that
In departing from the
said port of Carupano he
took great care to secure
all necessary papers, &
signatures and certificates
and all papers thought
to be required for a proper
entrance to the port of
Baracoa; That at the Port
of Carupano, the Spanish
language is the only spoken
or understood; That his

consignee

consignee could not speak
English nor could the
Officers of the Customs.

Being unacquainted
with the Spanish language
himself it was with great
difficulty that he was
able to make himself
understood. But the
American Consul with the
Consignee and the Officers
of the Customs assured him
by signs, &c., that his
papers were made out
in compliance with the
requirements and regul=
-ations governing the Port
of Baracoa.

Not having visited the
Port of Baracoa, or that
of any other Spanish Port,
for many years, and
not having had an
opportunity of procuring
the present regulations

and rules governing and required for observance on entering said port, he was forced to accept and observe the instructions and assurances of the officials at Carupano as the only guide for his action.

On arriving here he was informed that the only fault in his papers — consisted in the failure to procure the Official attestation of the Spanish Consul, if one resided there, if not, then, the attestation of some public officer, but being wholly uninformed that such an act was required on his part, he now declares that in whatever particulars his papers may be defective, or fail to comply with the rules governing this port,

such fault or defect, whether of omission or commission, was not caused by any desire on his part to disobey the law, or intention of disregard for the laws and rules governing the port of Baracoa.

And therefore, he most earnestly protests, that, in view of all the circumstances, the fine of five hundred dollars imposed by the Collector of this port is unreasonable and excessive, when it is considered that he has performed all things of which he had knowledge, necessary to a respectful and faithful compliance of the law, and he most respectfully asks that a remission of the fine be granted and that an order be made, by the

proper authorities, causing the bond to be cancelled.

And these said appearers, upon their oaths aforesaid, do further declare and say: That during the said voyage they, together with the others of the ship's company, used their utmost endeavors to preserve the said "Ethel A. Merritt" and cargo — from all manner of loss, damage, or injury. — Wherefore the said George V. Williams, Master, hath protested, as by these — presents I, the said Consul, at his special instance and request, do publicly and solemnly protest, against all and every person and persons whom it doth or may concern, and against

the

the winds, and waves, and billows of the seas, and against all and every accident, matter, and thing, had and met with as aforesaid, whereby and by reason whereof the said "Ethel A. Merritt", or cargo already has, or hereafter shall appear to have, suffered or sustained damage or injury. And do declare that all losses, damages, costs, charges and expenses that have happened to the said "Ethel A. Merritt or cargo, or to either, are and ought to be borne by those to whom the same by right may appertain by way of average or otherwise, the same having occurred as before mentioned, and not by or through the insufficiency

of

of the said "Ethel A. Merritt"
her tackle or apparel,
or default or neglect of
this appearer, his officers,
or any of his mariners.

Thus done and
protested in the Port of
Baracoa, this 14th day of
March, in the year of our
Lord one thousand eight
hundred and eighty five.

In testimony whereof,
these appearers have
hereunto subscribed
their names, and I,
the said Consul, have
granted to the said
Master this public
instrument, under
my hand and the
seal of this Consulate,
to serve and to avail
him, and all others
whom it doth or
may concern as

need

L.S. need and occasion may require.

(signed) Datus E. Coon.
U.S. Commercial Agent.

(signed) Geo: V. Williams, Master.